~THE STRONGEST BRIDE ON EARTH~

SUMOMOMOMOMO

4

SHINOBU OHTAKA

The strongest bride on earth.
Sumomomo Momomo.4
Shinobu Ohtaka

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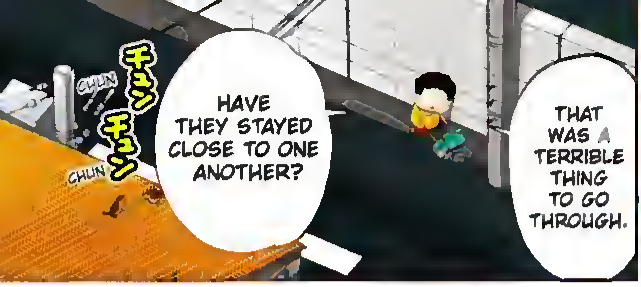
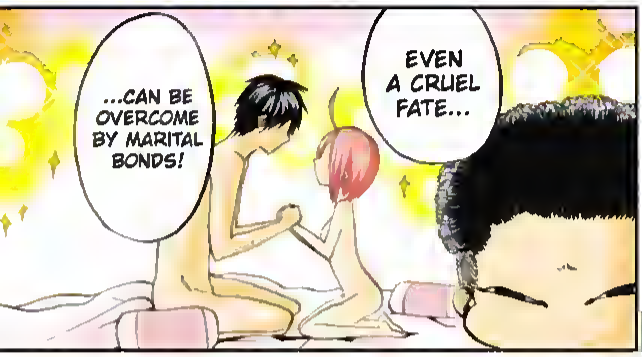
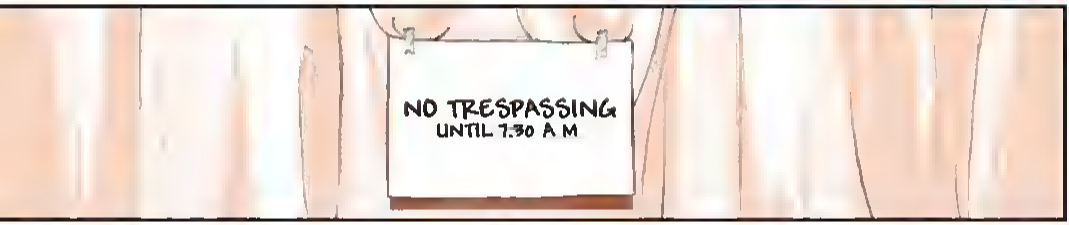
SUMOMOMO,MOMOMO


チュン
CHUN
チュン
CHUN
HAVE THEY STAYED CLOSE TO ONE ANOTHER?
THAT WAS A TERRIBLE THING TO GO THROUGH.

CHUN (TWEET)
チュン
CHUN
チュン
WELL, IT'S BEEN ONE NIGHT NOW...


...CAN BE OVERCOME BY MARITAL BONDS!
EVEN A CRUEL FATE...

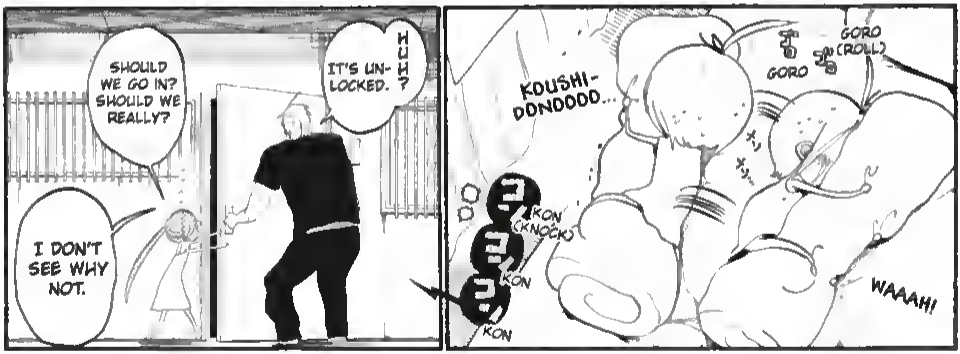

NO TRESPASSING
UNTIL 7:30 A.M.

...

23. A NEWFOUND DETERMINATION

.....
PURU (TREMBLE)
PURU
PURU
LAST NIGHT
AH!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I WANT FROM YOU...
...TO-NIGHT...
YES, YES?
PITA (STUP)
NIJIRI
NIJIRI (NYERK)
WAOHHH...
SHA (FSHH)
...PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE.

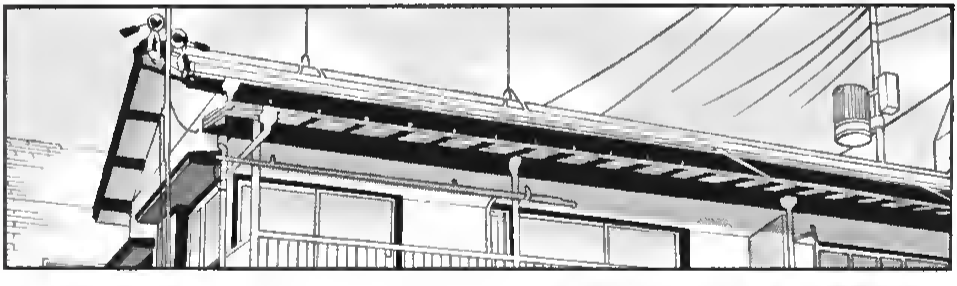
SFX: MESO (WEEP) MESO

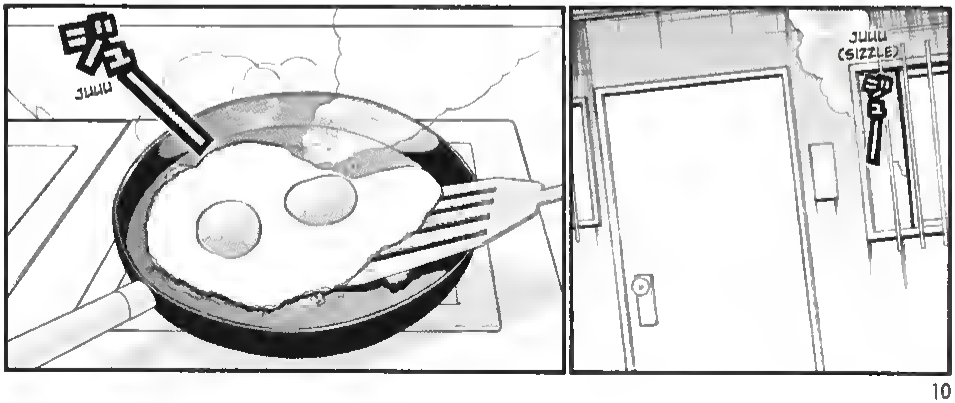


SFX: GACHA (CLACK)

OHHHH!
GOSO (RUSTLE)
ごそ
KOUSHI-DOZOO-
GOSO
ごそ
OHHHH!
KOUSHI-DOZOO-
!!!

SHUT UP OUT THERE...
GAAA (FSHHH)
GACHA (CLACK)
WAAH! KOUSHI-DONOOO!
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU!
DA
DA (DASH)




JUUU
JUUU (SIZZLE)

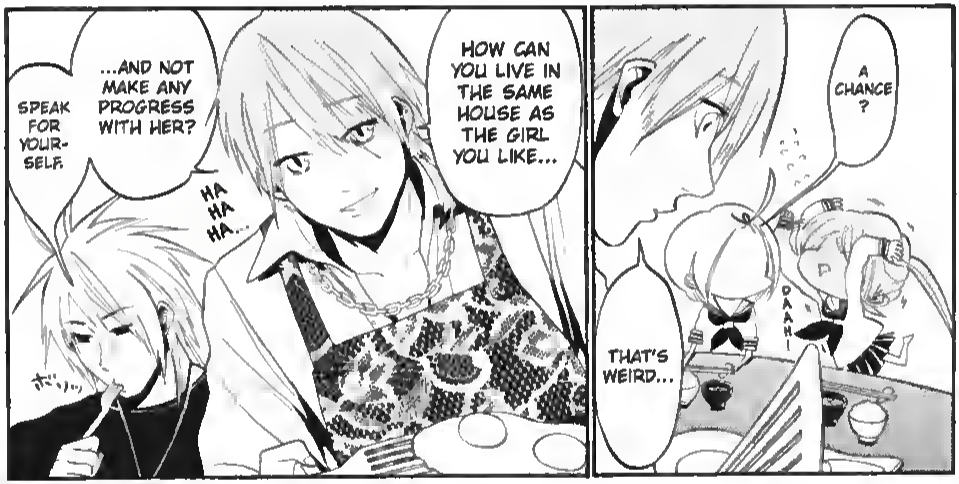
.....
.....
JUUU
I'M SO... TIRED.
.....
.....
.....
.....
BOOOO CDURRRRO
...I COULD BARELY SLEEP A WINK L_ST NIGHT.
BUT FOR SOME REASON...
IT IS YOU WHO IS IRRESPONSIBLE HERE!

AND I COULDN'T BITE BACK WITH ANY-THING...
.....

DWA
HA
HA
HA
HAN
SHIT...
I HAD NO ANSWER.

SFX: NIKO (GRIN) NIKO NIKO
SFX. GORI (RUB)
SFX: IRA (IRK) IRA
YOU HAD ME SCARED FOR A WHILE!
SO IT WAS JUST MY EYES PLAYING TRICKS ON ME!
HA
HA
HA
HA!

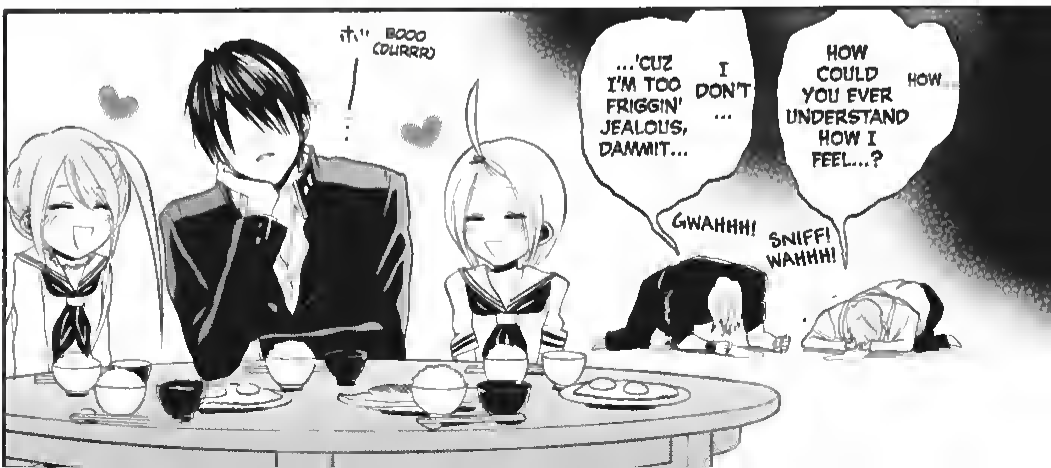
...BEFORE YOU TRULY AFFIRM YOUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER...
I STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO STRIKE...
I MEAN, I KNOW YOU'RE ENGAGED, BUT YOU'RE NOT MARRIED YET...
HERE I AM, MAKING SUCH FILTHY ASSUMPTIONS...
NIKO
NIKO
NIKO


SPEAK FOR YOURSELF.
...AND NOT MAKE ANY PROGRESS WITH HER?
HA HA HA...
HOW CAN YOU LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSE AS THE GIRL YOU LIKE...
A CHANCE?
DAAH!
THAT'S WEIRD...

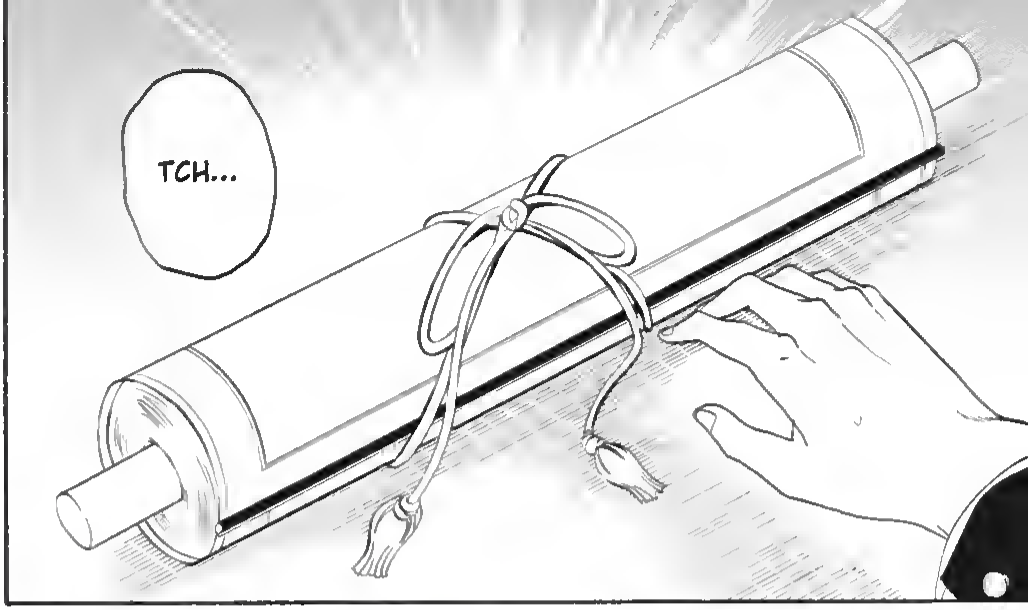
SFX: BOSO (MUTTER)

YOU'RE RIGHT THERE EVERY TIME SHE CHANGES CLOTHES OR GETS OUT OF THE BATH!
DON'T LOOK OVER HERE!
SUPYOOO (SHPZZZZ)
COME ON, MAN! YOU FALL ASLEEP EVERY NIGHT LOOKING INTO HER FACE!
ACHOO!

SIGNS: (TOP) BATH, (LEFT) WOMEN, (RIGHT) MEN



DON'T USE YOUR LAW AMBITIONS AS AN EXCUSE.
.....
.....
.....
GU... (GRRG)
DAMMIT, DAD...
.....
!
.....
YOU THINK I'M RUNNING AWAY!?



SFX: GASA (GSHH)

HA (GASP)
はっ
!
KOUSHI-DONO?
WHY DO YOU NOT SEEK THE MEANS THE PROTECT YOURSELF!?
I'M COMING.
PASHI (GRAB)
GI... (CLENCH)
.....
DAMN IT ALL...
MY OWN HOUSE WAS BURNED DOWN...

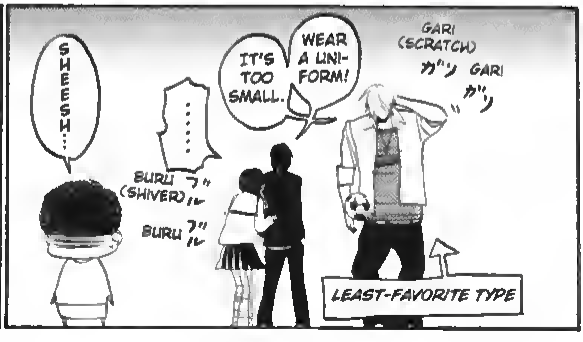
I GUESS IT IS MY PROBLEM NOW.
G—
GOOD MORNING ...
...INU-ZUKA-KUN.
GONNA LEAVE YOU BEHIND!

HUH?
CLASS REP?
THIS IS MY GRAND-DAUGHTER...
...SANAE.
WHAAAT!?
SHE'S A VERY PLAIN GIRL, UTTERLY NORMAL IN ALL RESPECTS.
YES, SHE MIGHT BE NOR-MAL...
DON'T MAKE A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT, GRAND-MA!
...BUT I HOPE YOU WILL GET ALONG WITH HER.

I...
I HAD NO IDEA EITHER...
WHAT'S THIS, SANAE? YOU KNOW HIM?
SHIRE (HMPH)
SO THAT MEANS MY DAD AND THE CLASS REP'S GRANDMA...
...JUST HAPPENED TO KNOW EACH OTHER? WEIRD...
THAT'S A SURPRISE.
...IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL, INUZUKA-KUN...
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
I... I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE WORLD OF MARTIAL ARTS, BUT...
WELL, SORRY...
TCH!
NU (GRRR)
...DECIDED TO BURN DOWN MY HOUSE!
BECAUSE SOMEONE'S SISTER...

SFX: GAOOO (GROWRR)

SFX: BIKUUU (TWITCH)



SHIIIN
(SILENCE)
.....
THREE MORE...
YOU'RE LUCKY IT'S JUST MY SISTER, Y'KNOW.
THE OTHER THREE ARE EVEN WORSE!
HOW BAD ARE THEY GONNA BE...!?
I MEAN IT...
THOSE KOGANEIS.

...BE CAREFUL OUT THERE.

ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA
HE'S SO GOOD!
WOW!

KYAA
KYAA

HUP!

WHAT'S THIS?
TON (TMP)
トン

?

DO YOU LIKE SOCCER?
YEAH! I DO!
KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE ...
...I LEARNED HOW TO PLAY...
WHO'S THE KID?
?
...FROM MY BROTHER.
OH!

NII-CHAN!
GOOOOO
CGHOOHHHHH
DON (BOOM)
!!?
DON'T TELL ME...
WHA...?

CHAPTER 23. A NEWFOUND DETERMINATION – END

NII-CHAN!
IS THAT...
!!?
...THE YOUNGEST BROTHER...
...OF THE KOGANEI FIVE!?
.....

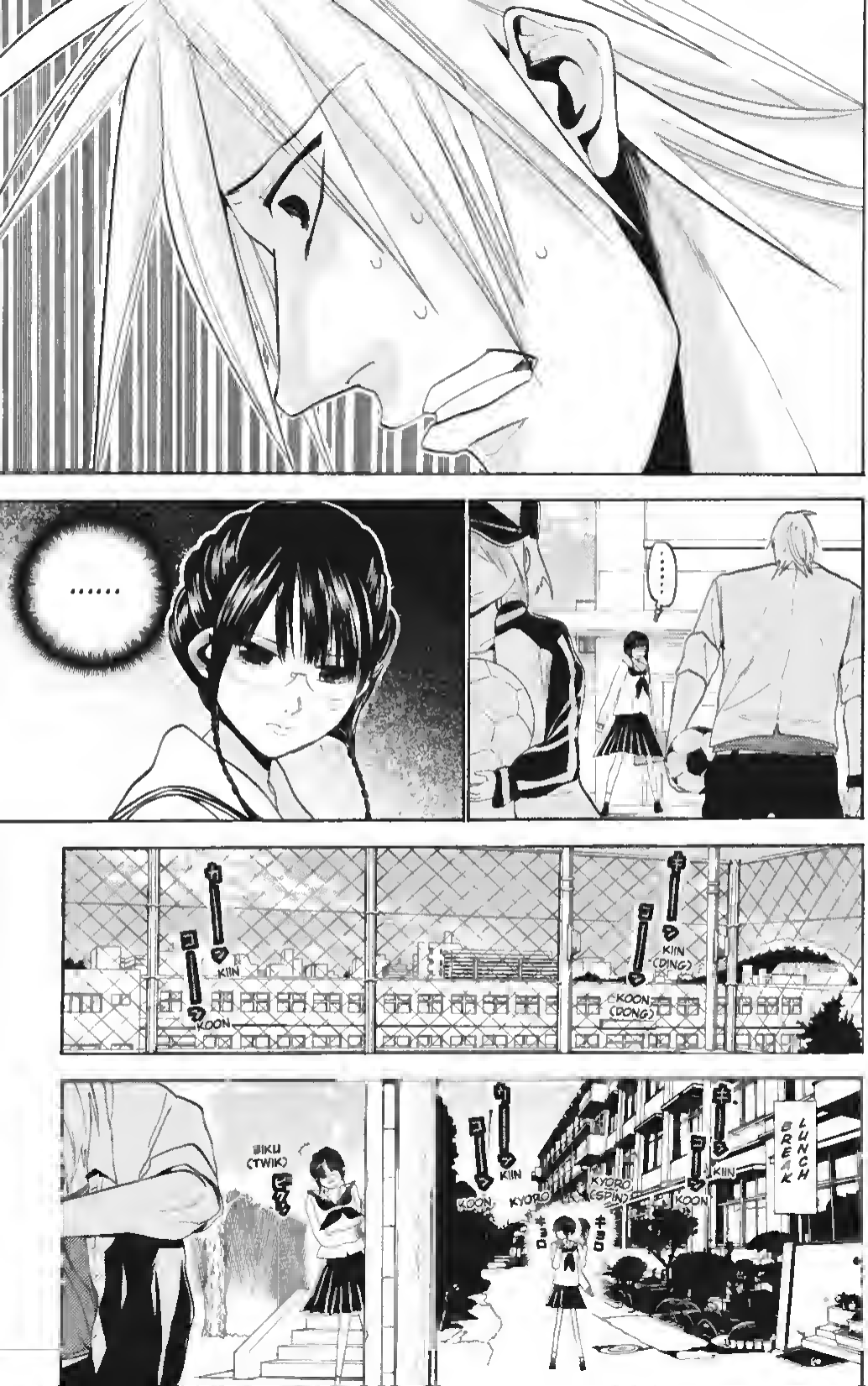
24. THE TIGER ARMY ATTACKS

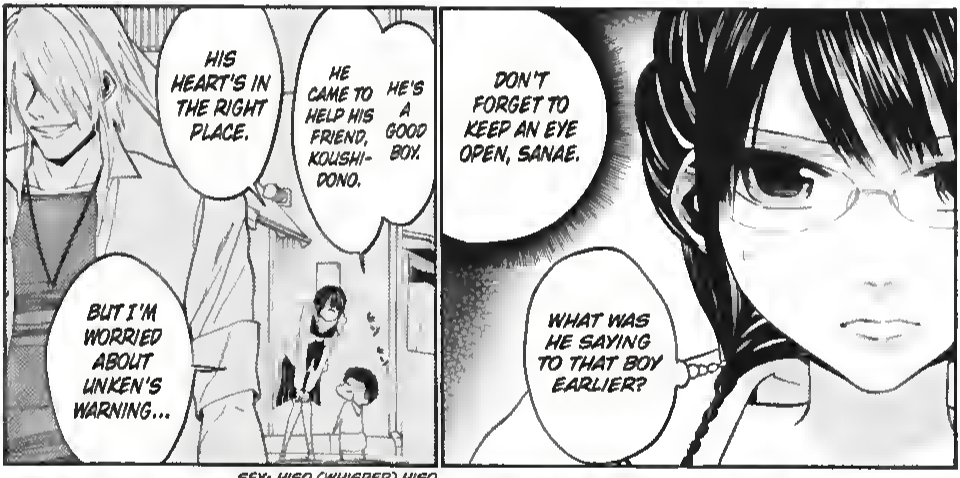
OOPS...
NO, MY MISTAKE!
IT'S SOMEONE ELSE.
...
SHEESH...
.....
TEE-HEE! ♡
HE ONLY LOOKS LIKE MY FAVORITE BIG BROTHER ...
HYOKKO (BOING)
HYOKKO
HYOKKO
HYOKKO
YEAH, THERE'S NO WAY A NORMAL KID LIKE THAT COULD BE AN ASSASSIN.
HOW OLD?
12!
THAT SCARED ME FOR A SEC.
SFX: KURUN (TWIRL)
'KAY!
SHOO
YOU CAN'T JUST SHOW UP AT SCHOOL. IF YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING HERE, RUN ON HOME.

HEH. YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK SO SCARED...
...I'M NOT GOING TO DO ANY-THING TO YOU.
BOSO (WHISPER)
I'M JUST SCOPING THINGS OUT TODAY.
I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING, SO I'LL RUN ON HOME.
AH!
KORO (ROLL) KORO
BY THE WAY...
.....

!!
...AND NOW YOU'VE SIDED WITH THE ENEMY...
FIRST YOU RUN FROM THE CLAN...
YOU'RE KINDA PATHETIC ...
NO...!
GI GRR
HEH HEH.
BIKU (TWITCH)

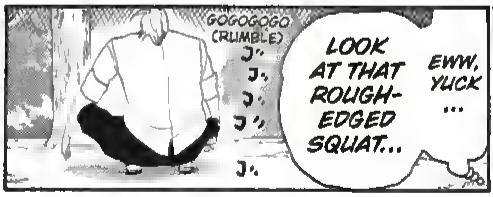
YOUR LEGS ARE TREM-BLING...
...ONII-CHAN.

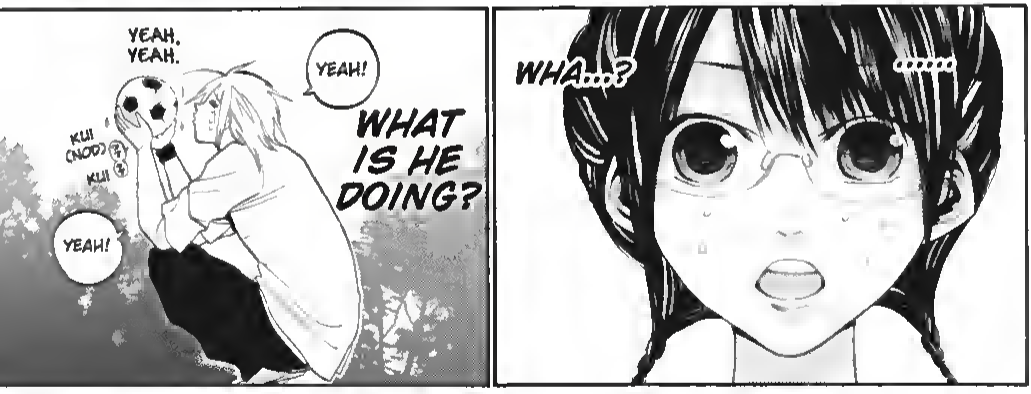

.....
.....
KIIN
KOON
KIIN (DING)
KOON (DONG)
BIKU (TWIK)
KIIN
KOON
KYORO
KYORO (SPIN)
KIIN
KOON
LUNCH BREAK


HIS HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
HE CAME TO HELP HIS FRIEND, KOUSHI-DONO.
HE'S A GOOD BOY.
BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT UNKEN'S WARNING...
DON'T FORGET TO KEEP AN EYE OPEN, SANAE.
WHAT WAS HE SAYING TO THAT BOY EARLIER?

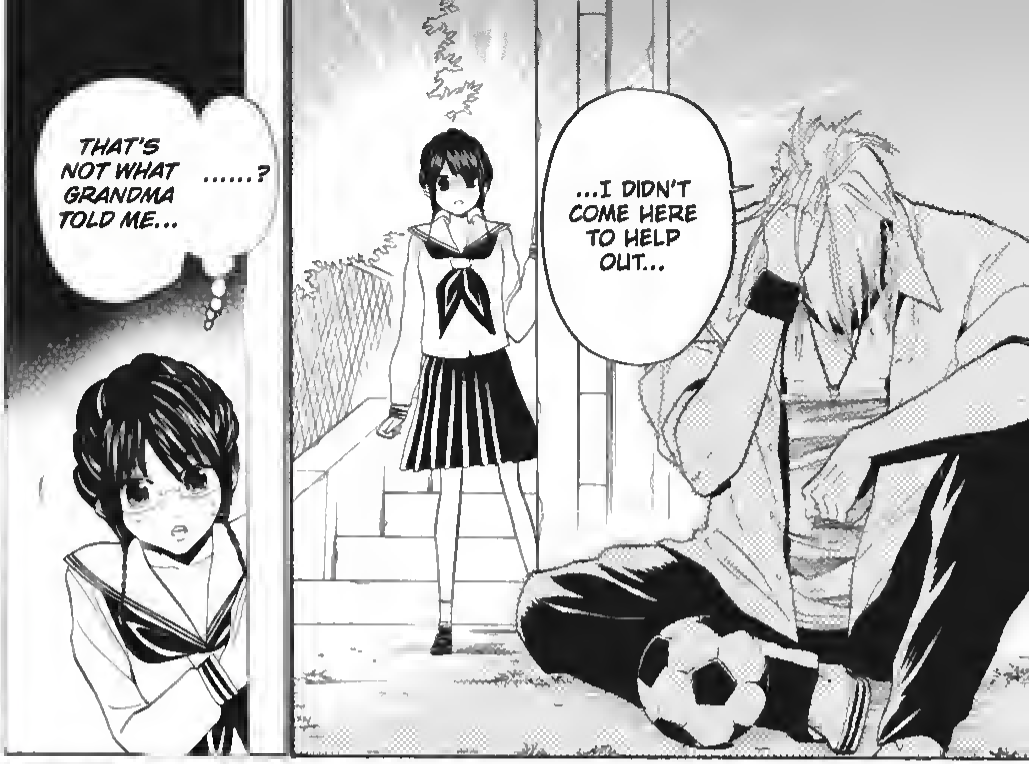
SFX: HISO (WHISPER) HISO

SFX: BURU (SHIVER) BURU





SFX. BOSO (WHISPER)


THAT'S NOT WHAT GRANDMA TOLD ME...
.....?
...I DIDN'T COME HERE TO HELP OUT...

...BECAUSE I'M THE WEAKEST.
THEY ALL PICK ON ME...
...EVEN MY BABY BROTHER ...
...MY SISTER ...
MY BROTH-ERS ...

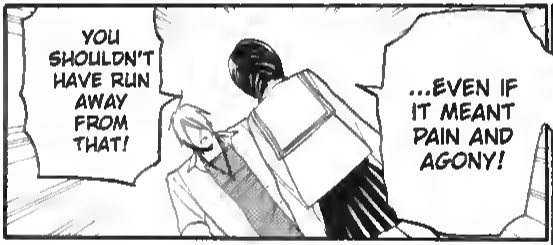
I THOUGHT I'D GOTTEN AWAY...
AND THEN THEY FOUND ME...
PRETTY SOON, I'M JUST GONNA DIE FROM THEIR TAUNTING!
I CAN'T STAND IT!
AND IT'S GOTTEN WORSE SINCE I FAILED THE MISSION...
AND JUST...
.....
.....

...JUST WHEN I HAD LIED TO INUZUKA AND MOMOKO...
...TO GET MYSELF A SPECIAL HIDING SPOT...
WH-WHA...!
EX-CUSE ME?
ZA CASHO
!
YOU'RE USING INUZUKA-KUN AS SHELTER...
...JUST TO SAVE YOUR OWN SKIN...?
DID I HEAR THAT RIGHT ...!?
.....

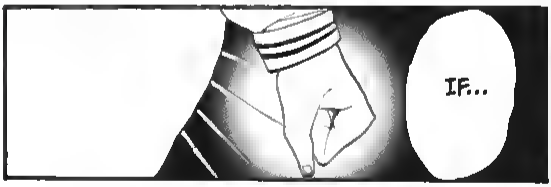
D-DON'T TELL THEM...
JUST DON'T TELL INUZUKA...OR MOMOKO...
!!
TA (TMP)
WAIT!
...FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR OWN PERSONAL PRIDE!
I'M NOT GOING TO LET INUZUKA-KUN BE KILLED...
I MEAN, YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH MARTIAL ARTS!
DON'T GET INVOLVED!
WAIT...
SHUT UP!
!
ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH HIM OR SOME-THING?
INUZUKA-KUN..
INUZUKA-KUN...

I DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT MAKES ME LOOK BAD TO HER...
...I LOVE MOMOKO.
THEN YOU SHOULD UNDER-STAND...
SEE... THE THING IS...
IRA (FLUME)
IRA
RIGHT!?
...IF IT MEANT THE PERSON I LOVED WOULD LOVE ME BACK...
YOU UNDER-STAND THAT FEELING, RIGHT?
I'D PUT UP A BLUFF AND ACT PROUD...
... WHAT!?
DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND...?
YOU'RE A CHILD...
YOU'RE TOO SELFISH TO DESERVE THE CHANCE TO FALL IN LOVE!
"I DON'T WANT TO LOOK BAD," "I WANT HER TO LOVE ME"...

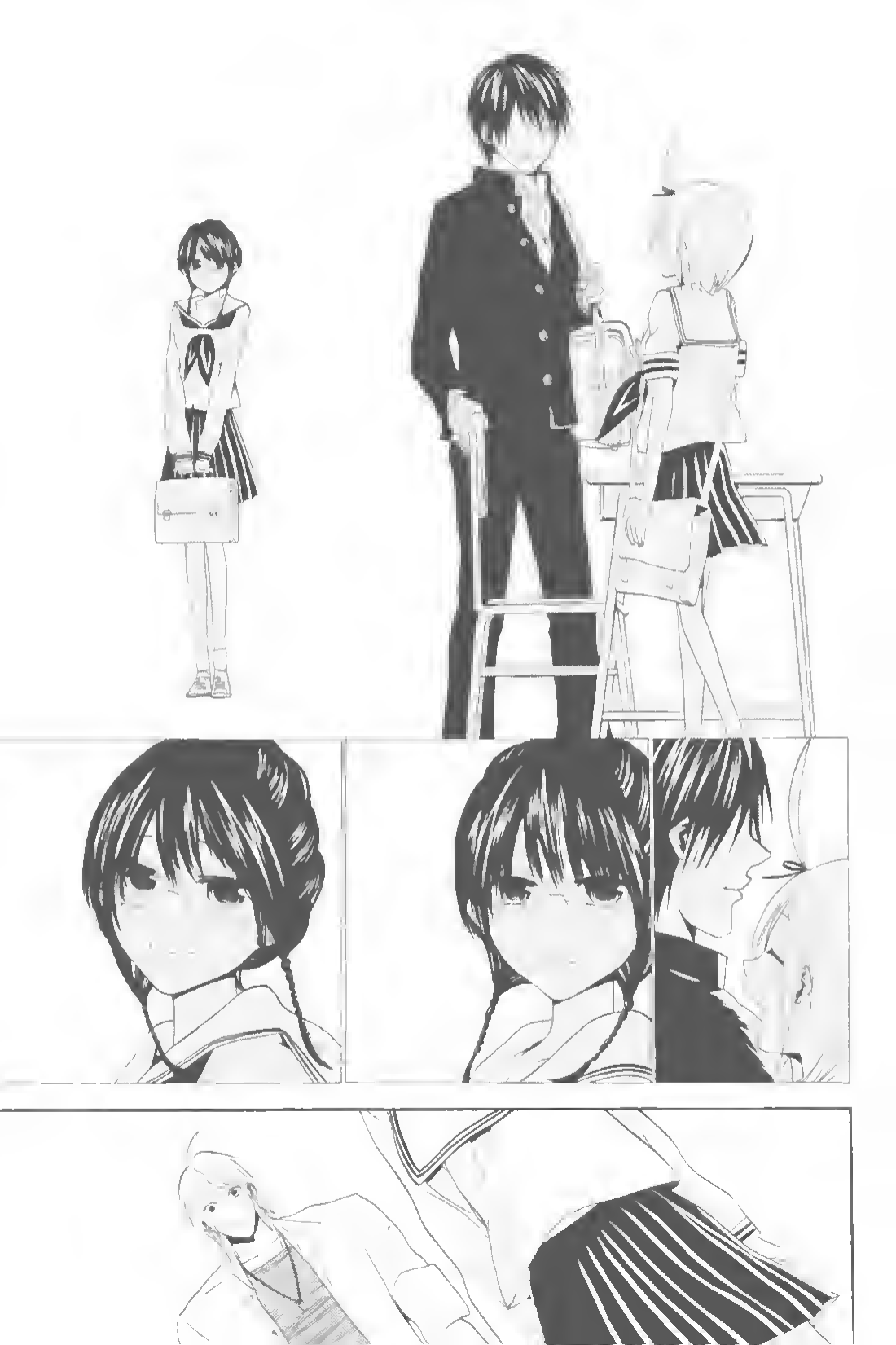
IF MOMOKO-CHAN WAS REALLY MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN YOUR OWN SAFETY...
...YOU WOULD HAVE STAYED HOME AND STOPPED YOUR SIBLINGS, BY FORCE IF NECESSARY!


YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE RUN AWAY FROM THAT!
...EVEN IF IT MEANT PAIN AND AGONY!

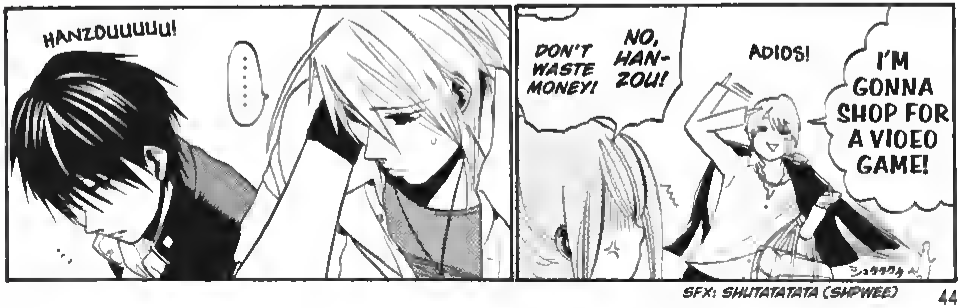
YOU SHOULD HAVE PROTECTED MOMOKO-CHAN FROM DANGER...
!!


IF...

IF YOUR OWN SUFFERING...
...WAS WHAT IT TOOK...
...FOR HER TO BE HAPPY...



YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THEM FIRST, AND THINK HARD!!
!!!
IT'S YOUR JOB TO THINK OF WHAT YOU SHOULD DO...
...FOR THE SAKE OF THE GIRL YOU LOVE, AND NOT FOR YOURSELF!
YOU NEED TO CONSIDER WHAT SHOULD BE DONE...
...AND WHAT SHOULDN'T BE DONE!

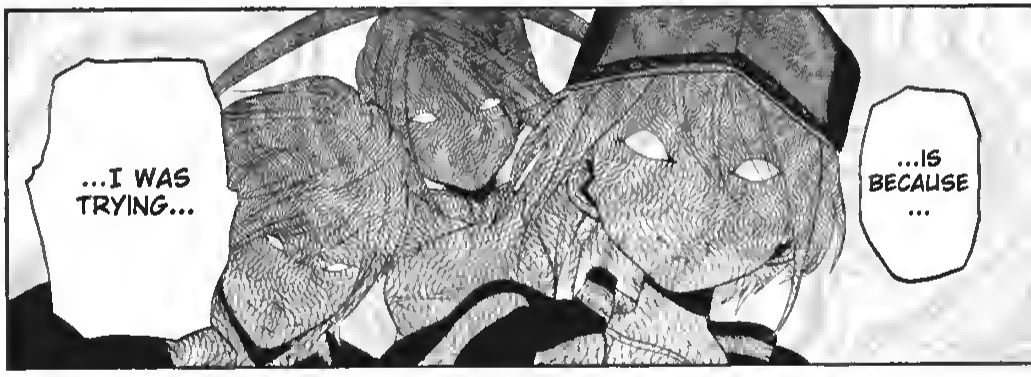


SFX: SHUTATATATA (SHPWEE)

WHERE'D YOU GO?
HEY...
WHAT HAPPENED DURING LUNCH BREAK?
INUZUKA...
.....
.....
.....
TELL ME NOW.
DON'T BE SUCH A CREEP.
I... WELL, I...
BUT LATER...
I GOTTA TELL YOU AND MOMOKO SOME-THING...

BA (BOW)
ばっ
OKAY, HERE GOES ...
I'M SORRY!
THE TRUTH IS...
.....

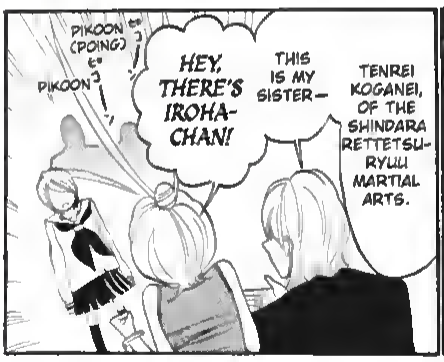
...THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE...


...I WAS TRYING...
...IS BECAUSE ...

...AND THEN TURNED TRAITOR?
...TO RUN AWAY FROM—
YOU RAN AWAY...

ヒュオ
HYUOOOO
(WHOOOOSH)
オォ
...ANIKI...
AH!
WHO'S THAT?
.....
!!

BYUOOOO (BWOOOOSH)
KOGANEI FIVE, SECOND BROTHER
TENREI KOGANEI
KOGANEI FIVE, SISTER
TENTEN KOGANEI


PIKOON (POING)
PIKOON
HEY, THERE'S IROHA-CHAN!
THIS IS MY SISTER—
TENREI KOGANEI, OF THE SHINDARA RETTETSU-RYUU MARTIAL ARTS.

GREETINGS, KOUSHI-KUN!
I'M TENKA'S OLDER BROTHER.
NIKO (GRIN)

YOU'RE TOO FUSSY ABOUT THAT!
WHY SHOULD WE BOTH-ER?
AND DON'T FORGET TENGA-NIISAN TOO.
COME NOW, ANEKI. YOU MUST INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

.....!

!!!
ZABAAA (ZBLOOSH)
ZA
ZA (ZSHH)
KOUSHI INUZUKA IS GOING TO DIE.
PAAA
HEY, PAL!
MOVE IT!
ZAWA
?
PAPAAA
PAAA (HONK)
ZAWA (MURMUR)
HE WON'T EVEN MEET TENGA-NII.

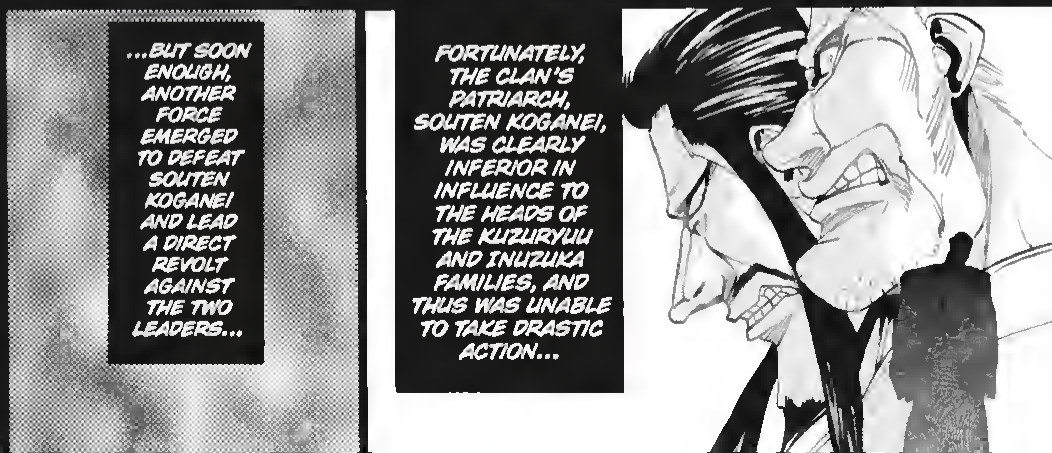
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO (VRMM)
.....
.....
!?
BIRI
BIRI (ZZT)
BUA (BWUFF)
THIS POWERFUL AURA...CAN IT BE!?
DO
DO
DO
DO
CHAPTER 24: THE TIGER ARMY ATTACKS — END

25. DRAGON AND TIGER AT ODDS

WITH THEIR SHARP CLAWS AND ATHLETIC PROWESS, THEY ARE "NATURAL-BORN" FIGHTERS.
OF THE POWERS OF THE WESTERN ARMY, THEY ARE SECOND ONLY TO KUZU-RYUU.
...ARE THE INHERI-TORS OF THE TWELVE HEAVENLY GENERALS' SHINDARA RETTETSU-RYUU MARTIAL ARTS.
THE KOGANEI CLAN...

...TO EXCEL NOT ONLY IN MARTIAL ARTS, BUT IN THE BRIGHT AND GLITZY SPORTING WORLD AS WELL.
THE KOGANEIS ARE KNOWN FOR USING THEIR SUPER PHYSIQUES...

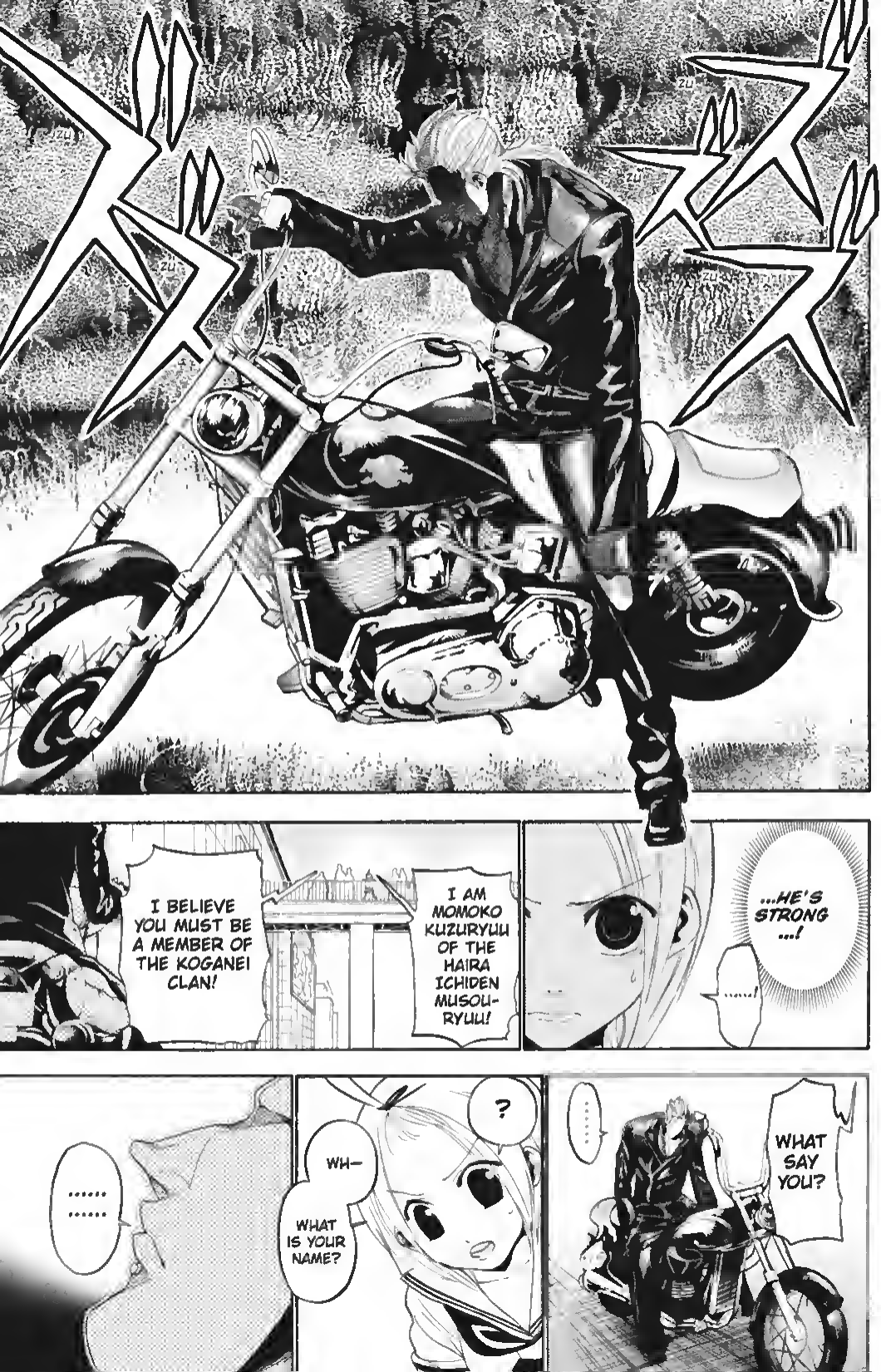
DUE TO THEIR BELLIGERENT, BATTLE-HAPPY NATURE, THE KOGANEIS WERE THE FIRST TO OPPOSE PEACE WITH THE EASTERN ARMY AND SEND THEIR ASSASSINS FORTH.
THIS WAS A SHOW OF POINTED RESISTENCE TO THE KUZURYUU CLAN, WHO HAD LONG HELD TO THE OLD WAYS, HONING THEIR MARTIAL ARTS IN THE AUSTERE, LONELY MOUNTAINS OF RURAL JAPAN.


...BUT SOON ENOUGH, ANOTHER FORCE EMERGED TO DEFEAT SOUTEN KOGANEI AND LEAD A DIRECT REVOLT AGAINST THE TWO LEADERS...
FORTUNATELY, THE CLAN'S PATRIARCH, SOUTEN KOGANEI, WAS CLEARLY INFERIOR IN INFLUENCE TO THE HEADS OF THE KUZURYUU AND INUZUKA FAMILIES, AND THUS WAS UNABLE TO TAKE DRASTIC ACTION...

THE KOGANEI SIBLINGS !!!
AND THEIR FEROCIOUS, BLOOD-THIRSTY FANGS...!!

...POISED TO STRIKE DIRECTLY AT KOUSHI AND HIS FRIENDS!!

WHO-EVER THAT IS...
RRGH ...!
ズ
ズズ
.....
ズ
ズ
ズ
ズ
(WWZ)


ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
I BELIEVE YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE KOGANEI CLAN!
I AM MOMOKO KUZURYUU OF THE HAIRA ICHIDEN MUSOU-RYUU!
...HE'S STRONG ...!
.....!
.....
.....
WH—
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
?
.....
WHAT SAY YOU?

WHAT ...?
.....
.....
SFX. SU (SHF)
BRING ME KOUSHI INUZUKA.
NOW.

!!
YOU SEEK TO DESTROY KOUSHI-DONO!
BA (SHWUP)
HE INTENDS TO FIGHT!
GOKI (GRIP)
GOKI

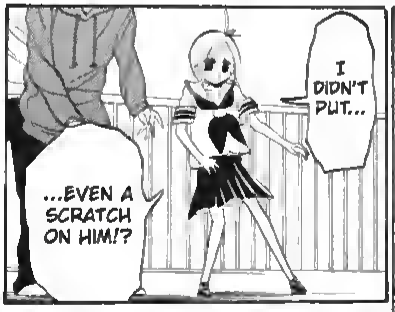
HE IS BEYOND HAUGHTY...
BUT AT THE SAME TIME...
...HE HARBORS THE STRENGTH TO BACK UP SUCH AN ATTITUDE!
BUWA (BWUFF)
TO NAME ONESELF IS THE FIRST COURTESY OF A WARRIOR... HE CLAIMS I AM NOT EVEN WORTH AN INTRODUCTION!
I WON'T LET YOU!
I DARESAY THAT COMPARED TO FATHER AND UNKEN-DONO, HIS IS...
SUCH INCREDIBLE SPIRIT HE PROJECTS!
SFX: ZAWA (MURMUR) ZAWA
OH NO...!
IS IT A FIGHT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I WILL GREET YOU AT FULL STRENGTH !!
... EQUAL !!
GO (DMW)
ゴッ

NO! DON'T DO IT!
ZU (ZMM)
IF HE ATTACKS NOW, THESE PEOPLE WILL BE HURT!
ZU
ZU
ZU
BLACK DRAGON ...
DOOOOOOO (DWOOOOO)
DOU (DWOOM)
...MORNING DESTROY-ER!

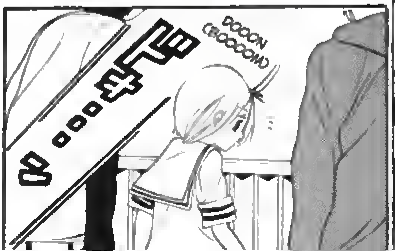
GASHII (CRSHH)
GUGUGU (RRRGH)
GU
GU
GU
GU
GOGOGO (GWHMMM)

GUSHAA (GRSHH)
SFX: SHUUUU (FSHHHH)
.....
SHHH (SILENCE)
.....
.....
.....
シュウウウ…

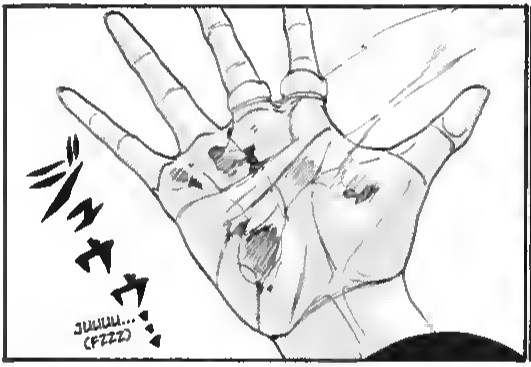
THAT WAS WEAK.

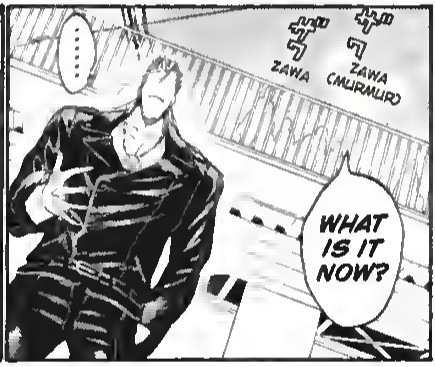

I DIDN'T PUT...
...EVEN A SCRATCH ON HIM!?

!!

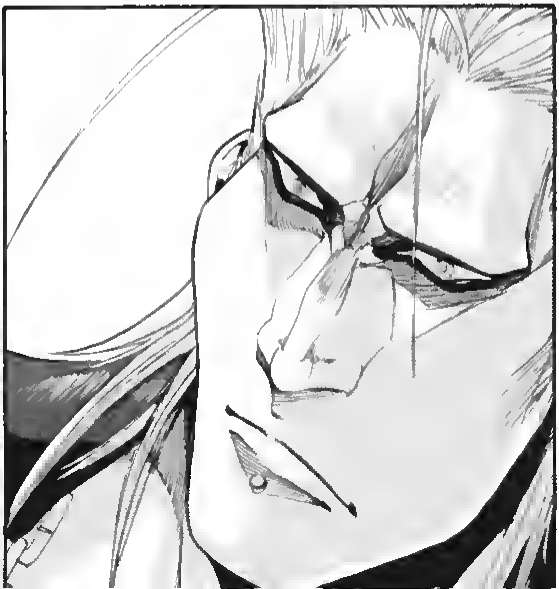

DOOON (DOOOOM)

.....?


ジンジン
JUUUU...
(PZZZ)


...
ZAWA
ZAWA
(MURMUR)
WHAT IS IT NOW?

?
JI
(CRRK)



.....

TENGA KOGANEI.
!
HE IS DEAD.
WH-WHAT ...?
BUT I HAVE LOST ANY REASON...
...TO FIGHT WITH YOU.
.....
.....
BA (ZWUP)
!!

KOUSHI-DONOOOO!!
PACHI
パチ
PACHI
パチ
PACHI (POP)
パチ

ゴオオオオ
(FWOOOO)

DAMN!

THAT'S THE BOY...
AH...

I THOUGHT WE WERE JUST WATCHING TODAY.
YOU MADE A LOT OF NOISE.

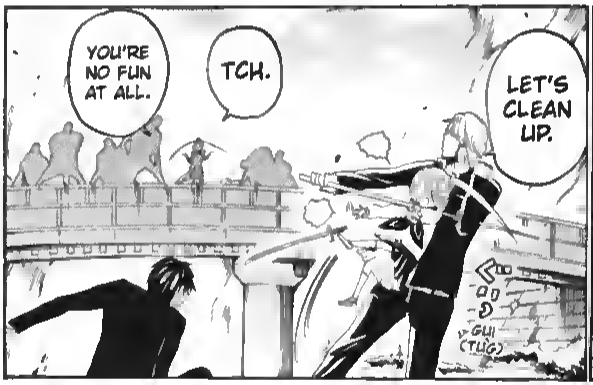
TENCHI...
SO HE IS YOUR BROTHER ...!?
DAMMIT!!
WHY DID YOU LIE THIS MORNING?
ANSWER ME, TENKA!
HEY...
TENKA !?
GACHI (SHIVER)
GACHI

THE BLACK SHEEP OF THE FIVE.
HE'S A COWARD.
WOULD YOU LEAVE THE POOR BOY ALONE, PLEASE?
KOFF!
KOFF!
KOFF!
YOU AREN'T EVEN MY BROTHER ANYMORE!
BUT WHAT AM I SAYING?
GA CWHAMO
YOU LOSER.
TEN-CHI...
...
...
KOFF!
KOFF!

!!
DOGA! (STOMP)
IROHA-CHAN!
SFX: NIKO (GRIN) NIKO
DEAR IROHA-CHAN.
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
コッ
ナ
ナ
H—
HEY!
ナ
(GOOOOO (FWOOOO)

IT'S YOUR FAULT...
...MY CLAN HAS BEEN RUINED!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT...
...HEA-THEN!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH...
!!
IS THAT WHAT'S IMPOR-TANT TO YOU NOW?
HEY.
WHAT'S THAT?
THAT THERE.
OKAY?
OKAY?
GIVE THAT TO ME, THEN.

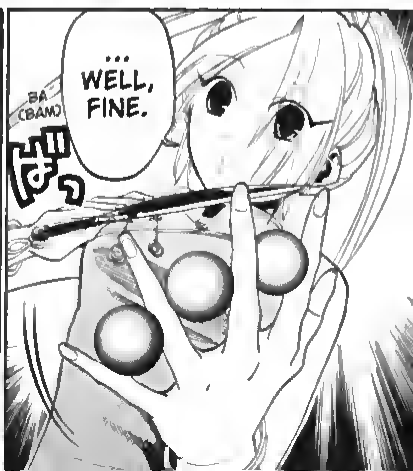
IROHA-CHAN!
.....!!
FURU
FURU (SHAKE)


LET'S CLEAN UP.
TCH.
YOU'RE NO FUN AT ALL.
GUI (TUG)

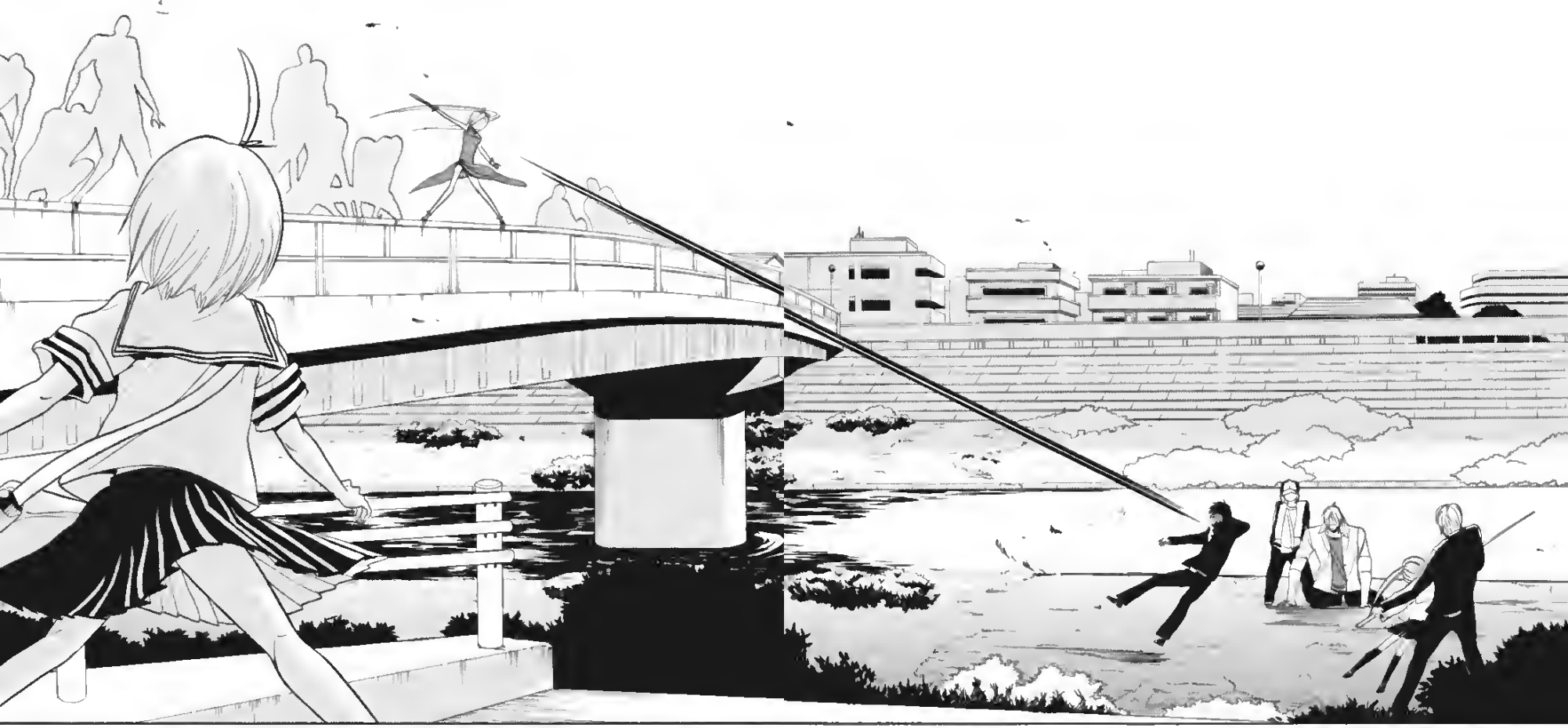
COME NOW, ANEKI.
ZA (ZSH)

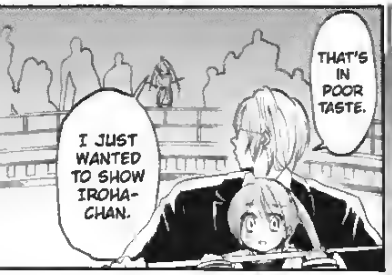
KOUSHI-DONO!

NOT MORE BOMBS!!

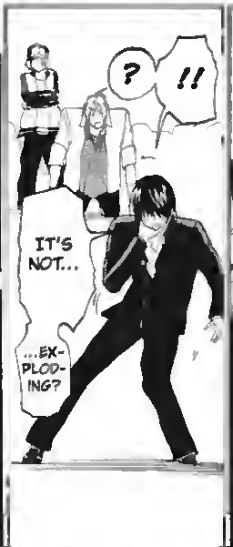

...WELL, FINE.
BA (BAM)

KOUSHI-DONO!
BYE-BYE.
KOUSHI-DONO!?
DA (DASH)
DON'T DO IT!
!!




I JUST WANTED TO SHOW IROHA-CHAN.
THAT'S IN POOR TASTE.

.....


?
!!
IT'S NOT...
...EXPLODING?

ゴクン
GOKUN (GULP)

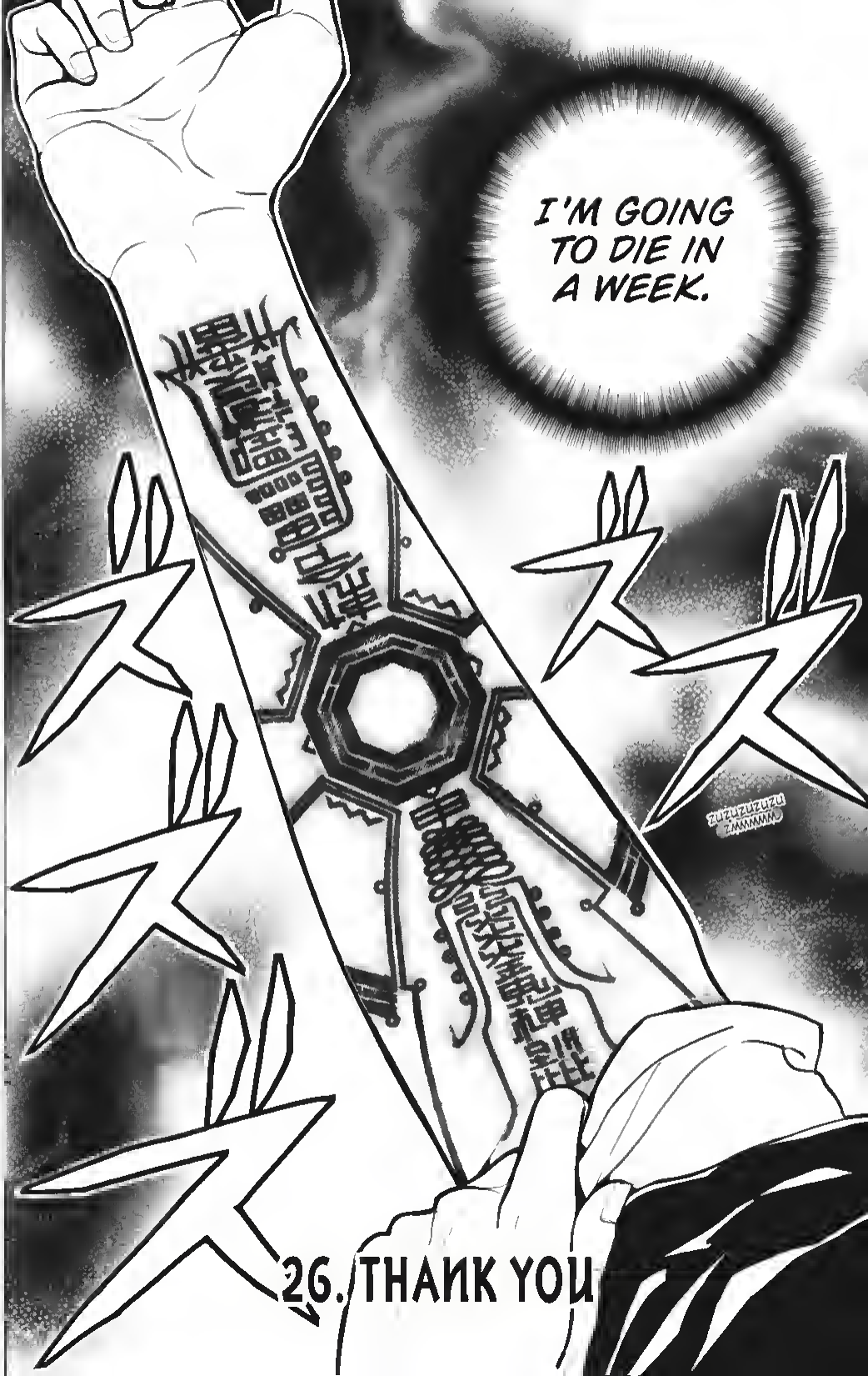
シュウウ
SHUUUU (HSSSS)

!?
... THIS?
WHAT IS...
KOUSHI-DONO!?
DO (WHOMP)
GUTA (FLOP)
.....
.....
.....
WHAT DID YOU GIVE HIM!?

.....
.....
YOU WOULDN'T ...
NIYA (SMIRK)
NIYA
.....
ZHEN PTOMAINE.
PI (FLICK)
YOU WILL FIND YOUR BODY GROWING WEAKER...
KOUSHI INUZUKA.
!
.....!?
...AND WEAKER ...
...AND WEAKER..
...UNTIL THE MOMENT YOU FINALLY DIE...

CHAPTER 25. DRAGON AND TIGER AT ODDS — END

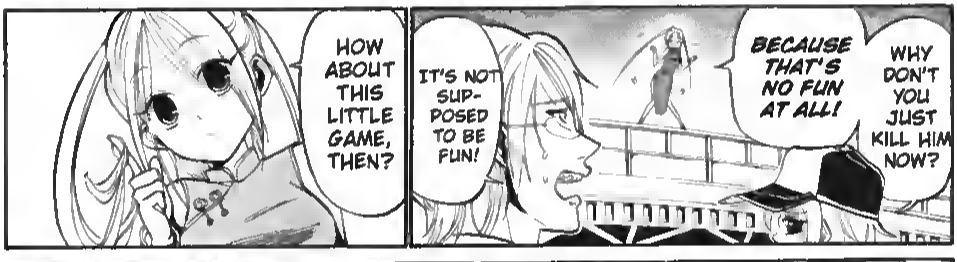
MY FIRST MISTAKE WAS BEING BORN INTO A FAMILY OF MARTIAL ARTISTS...
I'M TENKA KOGANEI OF THE SHINDARA SETTETSU-RYUU!
AND I HAVE COME TO KILL YOU KOUSHI SHINOKA!
...AND THINGS ONLY GOT WORSE...
...ONCE THEY SHOWED UP.
THAT TERRIBLE LUST TO KILL!!
ZA (ZSHH)
HANZOU
ASSASSIN
HROHA MIYAMOTO
...WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS...!!?
ZU
ZU
ZU
I WAS STILL HANGING ON DESPITE ALL OF THAT...
BUT NOW...
ZUZUZU (ZRNNNN)

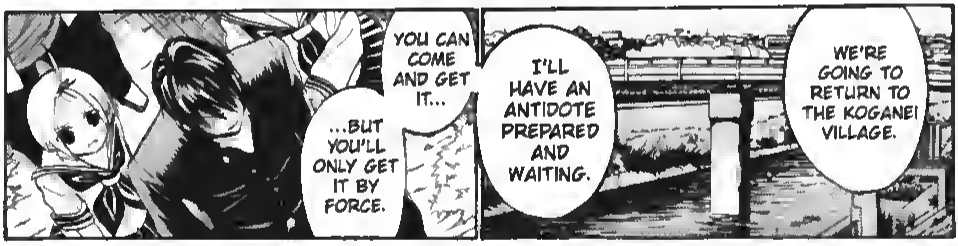


26. THANK YOU

YOU HAVE ONE WEEK...
GOOOOO (FWOOOM)
...LEFT TO LIVE!
ZHEN PTO-MAINE.
A POISON THAT WILL CONSUME YOUR BODY OVER THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS.
WHAT IS THIS?
THE MARK ON YOUR ARM IS THE SCAR LEFT BY THE POISON EATING THE KI IN YOUR CELLS.
THE PATTERN WILL CONTINUE TO SPREAD ...

...UNTIL THE SEVENTH DAY, WHEN IT REACHES YOUR HEART, AND THEN IT'S...
...THE E. N. D.


WHY DON'T YOU JUST KILL HIM NOW?
BECAUSE THAT'S NO FUN AT ALL!
IT'S NOT SUP-POSED TO BE FUN!
HOW ABOUT THIS LITTLE GAME, THEN?

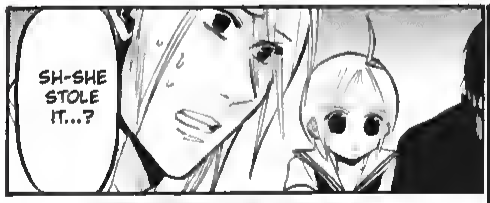

WE'RE GOING TO RETURN TO THE KOGANEI VILLAGE.
I'LL HAVE AN ANTIDOTE PREPARED AND WAITING.
YOU CAN COME AND GET IT...
...BUT YOU'LL ONLY GET IT BY FORCE.

THEN WE'LL GIVE YOU THE ANTIDOTE.
YOU HAVE TO FIGHT US AND WIN.

I'M GONNA MAKE SURE I KILL YOU THIS TIME.
WELL, YOU HEARD HER.
YOU'RE COMING WITH US.
.....
!
NEE-SAN!?
TA (TMP)
SFX. ZEEE (WHEEZE) ZEEE
!
OKAY.
COME, ANEKI.
LET'S GO.
!
TEN-TEN-SAN ...?
HAN-ZOUI
PROMISE?
COME AND PLAY, WON'T YOU?
BYE-BYE!

AND MAKE IT WITHIN THE WEEK, OR THERE'S NO POINT, DEAR!

THE ZHEN PTOMAINE WAS ORIGINALLY THE SECRET PROPERTY OF THE MIYAMOTO CLAN...


SH-SHE STOLE IT...?

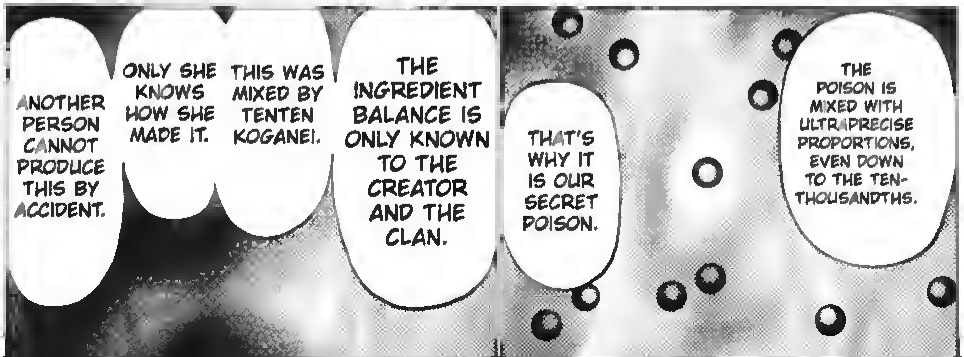
ONE OF THEM HIT ITS TARGET.
SHE TOSSED THREE EXPLOSIVE BALLS EARLIER.

...UNTIL TENTEN KOGANEI MANAGED TO STEAL ITS RECIPE...

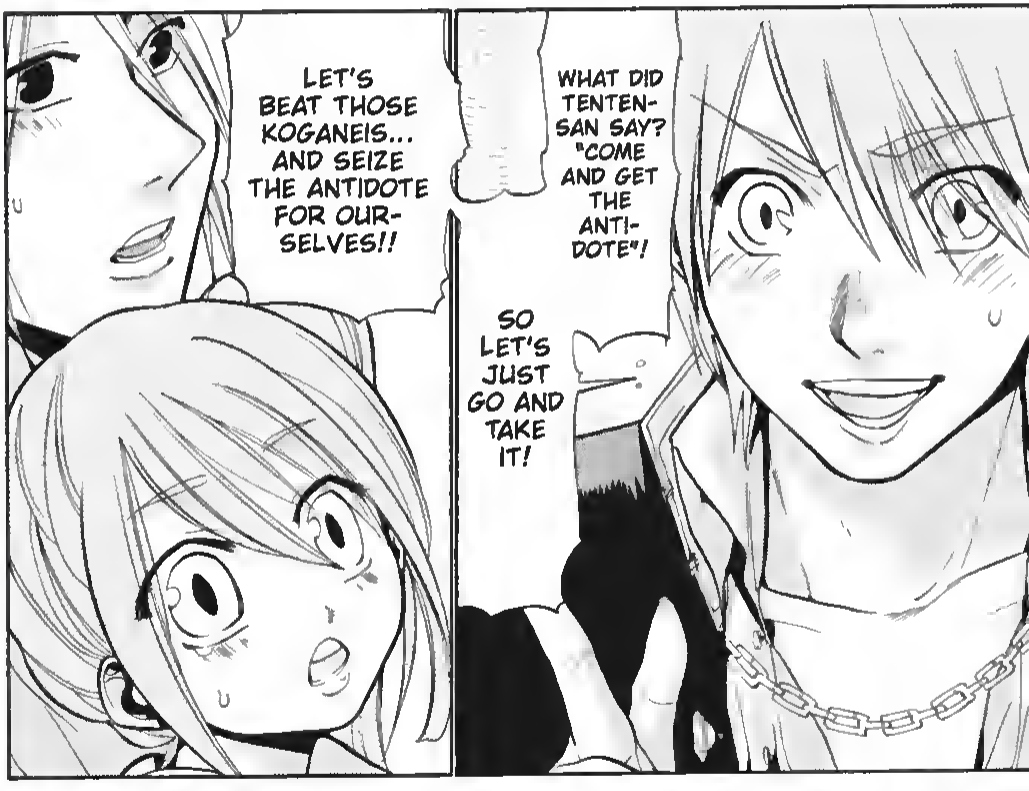
...I DISCOVERED THAT SHE HAS ADDED SOME EXTRA ELEMENTS TO THE POISON...
...AND DISSECTING ONE OF THEM TO STUDY ITS CONTENTS...
AFTER RETRIEVING THE OTHER TWO...

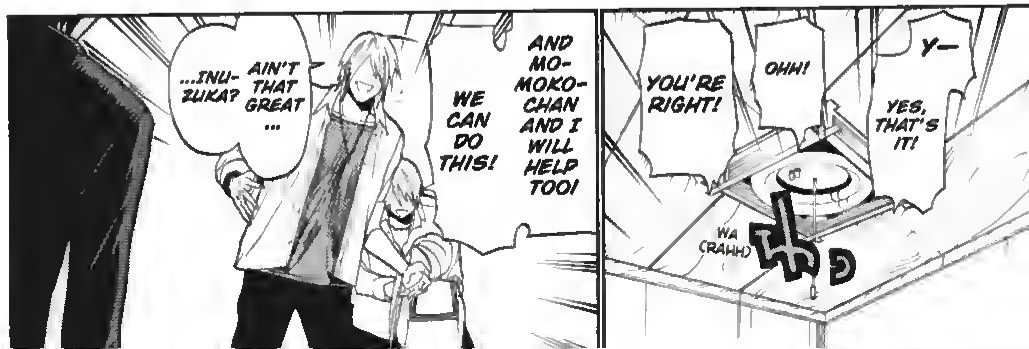
...WHICH MEANS...
...WE CAN'T CREATE AN ANTIDOTE ON OUR OWN..!!

NO!!
!!


ANOTHER PERSON CANNOT PRODUCE THIS BY ACCIDENT.
ONLY SHE KNOWS HOW SHE MADE IT.
THIS WAS MIXED BY TENTEN KOGANEI.
THE INGREDIENT BALANCE IS ONLY KNOWN TO THE CREATOR AND THE CLAN.
THAT'S WHY IT IS OUR SECRET POISON.
THE POISON IS MIXED WITH ULTRAPRECISE PROPORTIONS, EVEN DOWN TO THE TEN-THOUSANDTHS.

IT IS THE SAME FOR AN ANTIDOTE.
I'M SORRY... I CANNOT HELP YOU...!
SHIIN (SHHH)
DON'T WORRY, NEE-SAN!
D-


WHAT DID TENTEN-SAN SAY? "COME AND GET THE ANTI-DOTE"!
SO LET'S JUST GO AND TAKE IT!
LET'S BEAT THOSE KOGANEIS... AND SEIZE THE ANTIDOTE FOR OUR-SELVES!!

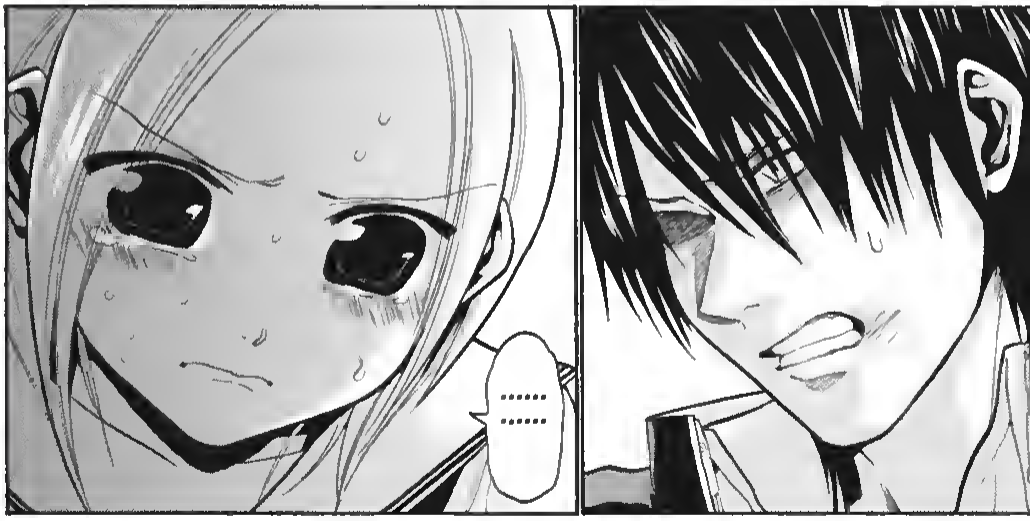

...INU-ZUKA?
AIN'T THAT GREAT ...
WE CAN DO THIS!
AND MO-MOKO-CHAN AND I WILL HELP TOO!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
OHH!
Y—
YES, THAT'S IT!
WA (RAHH)

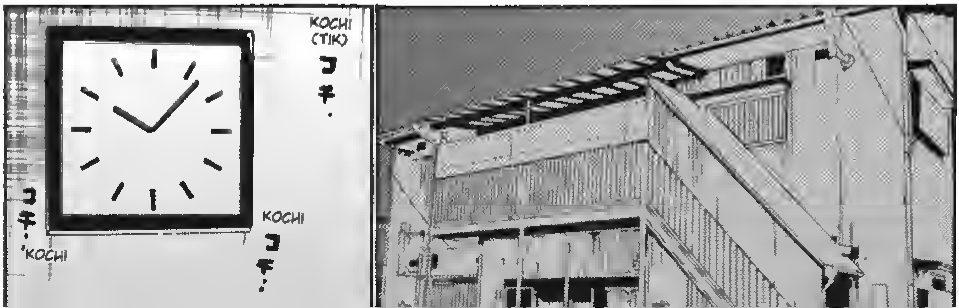
.....
THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS...
YOU JUST GOT THRASHED OUT THERE.
YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO LOSE AGAIN..
NO! WE'LL WIN NEXT TIME!!
.....
YOU CAN'T...
WE'LL SPEND THE WHOLE WEEK TRAINING HARD!!
IT WON'T WORK...
IT ALL SOUNDS LIKE A WASTE OF TIME...

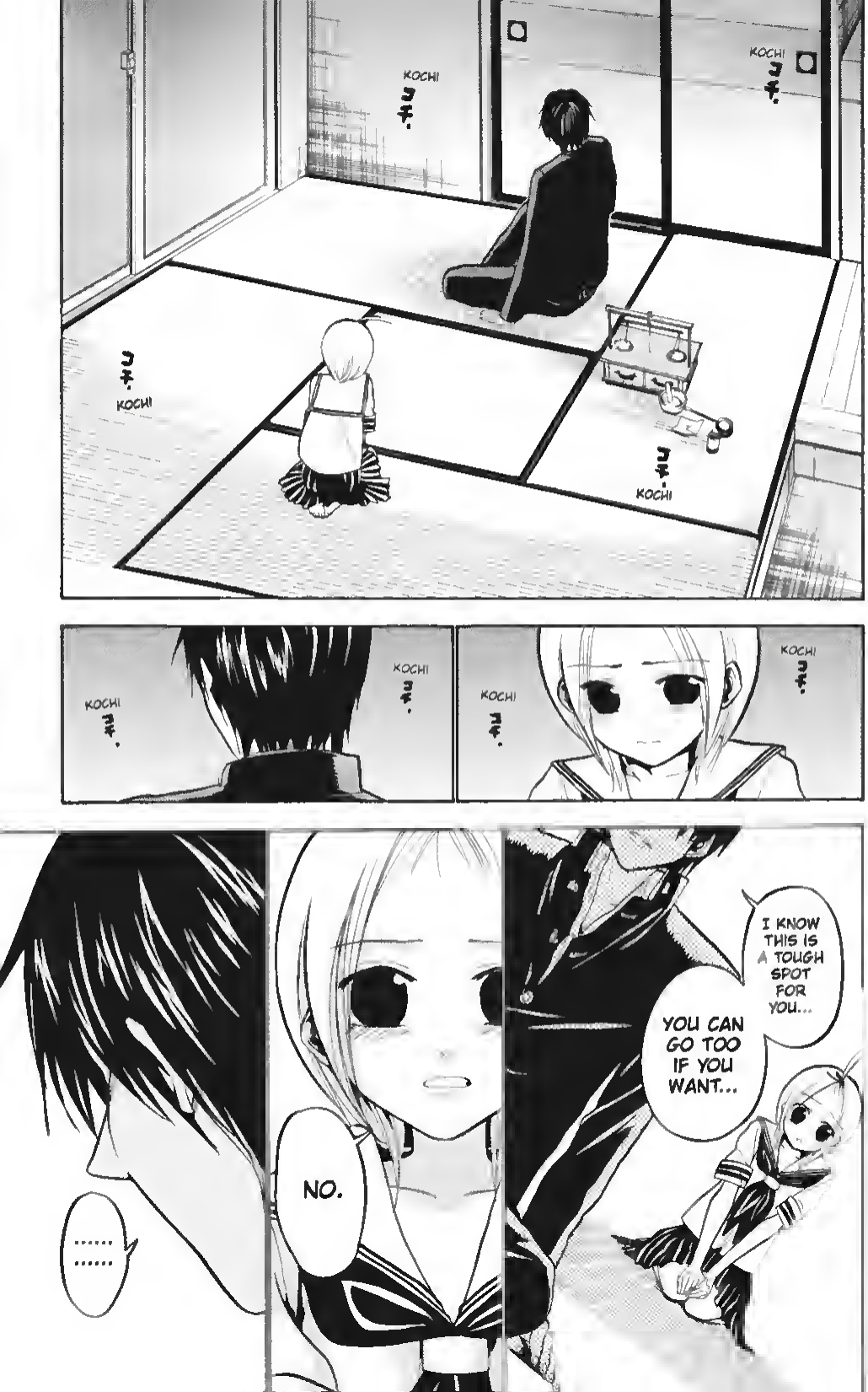
I CAN READ THE WRITING ON THE WALL. I'M GOING TO DIE.
GA CKRAK

KNOCK IT OFF!!
...THEN WHAT THE HELL ARE THE REST OF US FIGHTING FOR...!?
IF YOU'RE ALREADY GIVING UP...
OR ELSE...
YOU REALLY OUGHT TO SHAPE UP.

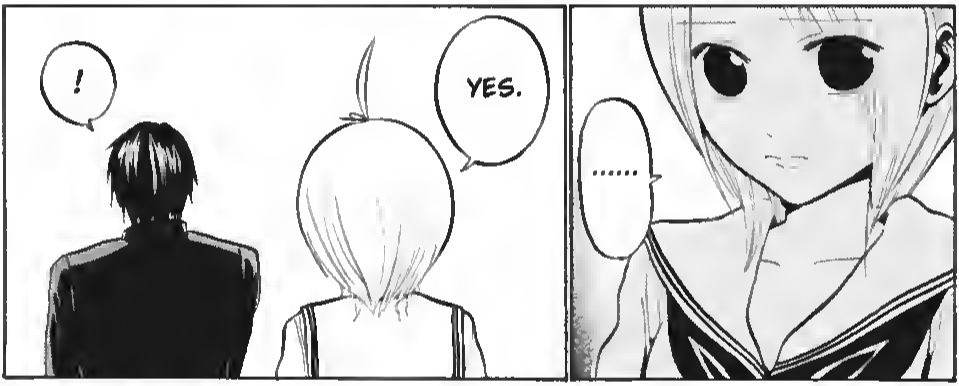
...EVERYONE YOU KNOW IS GONNA ABANDON YOU...

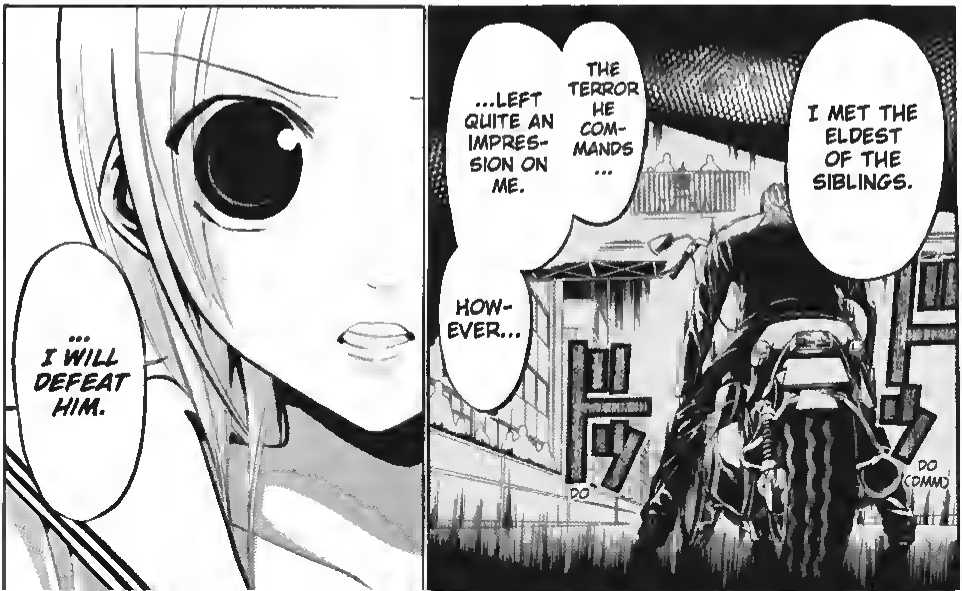

.....
.....


KOCHI (TIK)
コチ.
KOCHI
コチ.
KOCHI
コチ.


KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
KOCHI
I KNOW THIS IS A TOUGH SPOT FOR YOU...
YOU CAN GO TOO IF YOU WANT...
NO.
.....
.....

THOSE BROTHERS AND SISTER OF TENKA'S ...
...WERE QUITE POWERFUL.
EVEN YOU'LL BE IN DANGER IF YOU FIGHT THEM.


!
YES.
.....


I MET THE ELDEST OF THE SIBLINGS.
THE TERROR HE COMMANDS ...
...LEFT QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON ME.
HOWEVER...
DO
DO (COMM)
...
I WILL DEFEAT HIM.

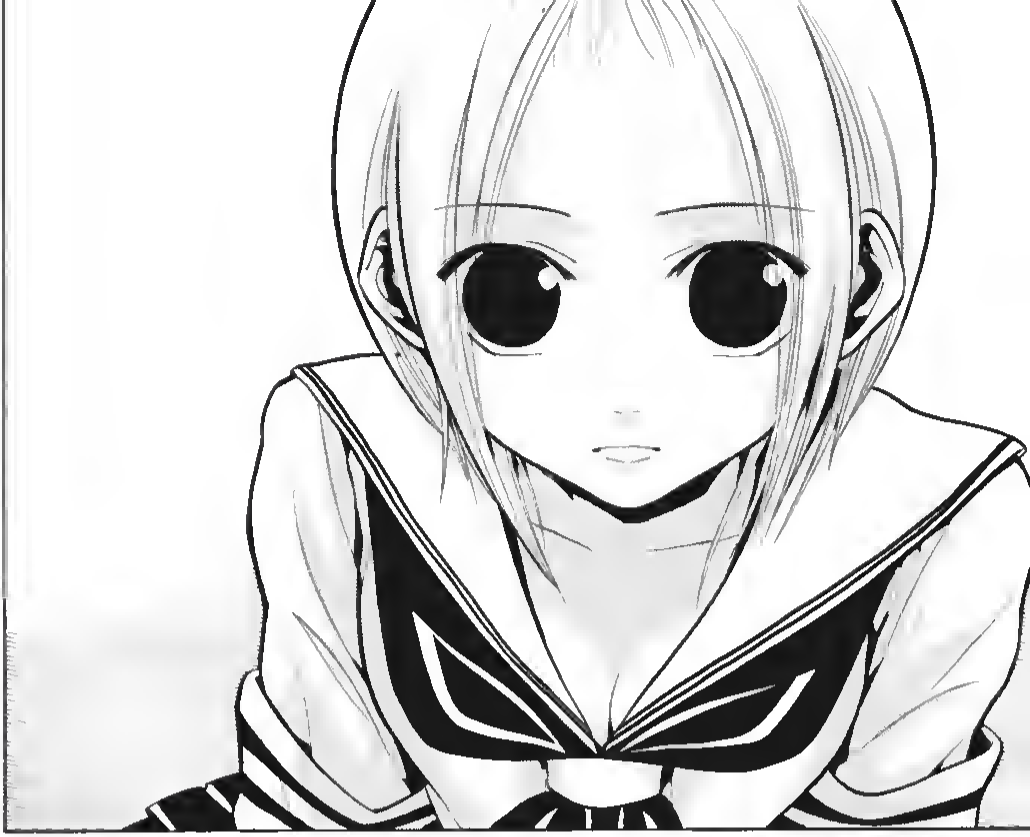
.....
STOP IT.
I WOULD RISK MY LIFE...
...FOR YOUR SAKE, KOUSHI-DONO.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I DON'T CARE...
YOU DIDN'T TAKE ANY POISON.
LIVE LONG.
KOUSHI-DONO!
WHY WOULD YOU RISK YOUR LIFE FOR THAT?
THINK ABOUT IT.
THAT'S ALL I AM.
...I'M JUST SOME STRANGER YOUR DAD ARRANGED FOR YOU TO MARRY.
THAT'S ALL.
BE-SIDES ...
... FROM YOUR STAND-POINT ...

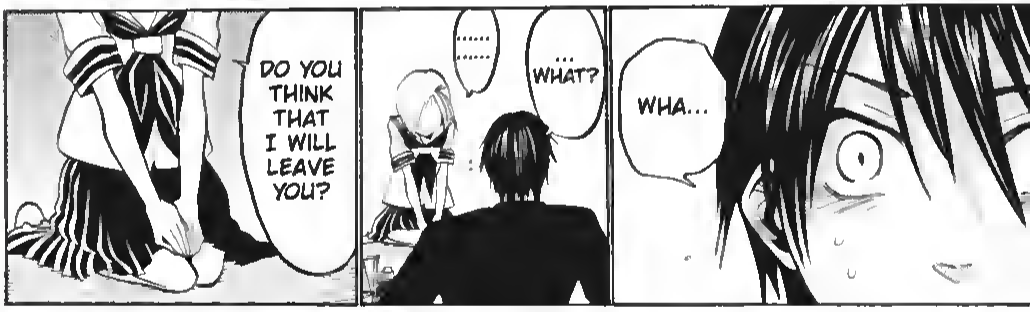
KOUSHI-DO—
DON'T YOU GET IT?
I'M SAYING THE EXACT SAME THING GOES FOR ME.
THAT'S ALL YOU ARE.
SOME GIRL MY DAD TROTS OUT.
AND EVER SINCE THEN...
...THINGS HAVE GONE CRAZY.
YOU'RE A BOTH-ER.
A NUI-SANCE.

AHHH...
A PESTI-LENCE!
A PLAGUE!
I CAN'T COUNT THE NUMBER OF TIMES I'VE WANTED YOU TO LEAVE!
WHAT AM I SAYING...?
I SHOULDN'T...
AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!!
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN THERE AT MY SIDE...
BUT NOT ANYMORE.
SHE CAN'T.
NOT THIS TIME.

I WISH YOU HAD NEVER COME!!!

...WILL SHE FINALLY BE SICK OF ME?
AFTER THIS...
KOCHI コチ
KOCHI コチ
KOCHI コチ
KOCHI コチ...
KOCHI (TIK) コチ
KOCHI コチ
.....
.....
NO.
SHE'LL YELL AT ME.
I THINK ?
.....
SHE'S GOING TO CRY.




DO YOU THINK THAT I WILL LEAVE YOU?
.....
.....
...WHAT?
WHA...

.....
WELL, YOU CAN'T...
...I WILL ALWAYS BE AT YOUR SIDE.
NO MATTER WHAT HAP-PENS...

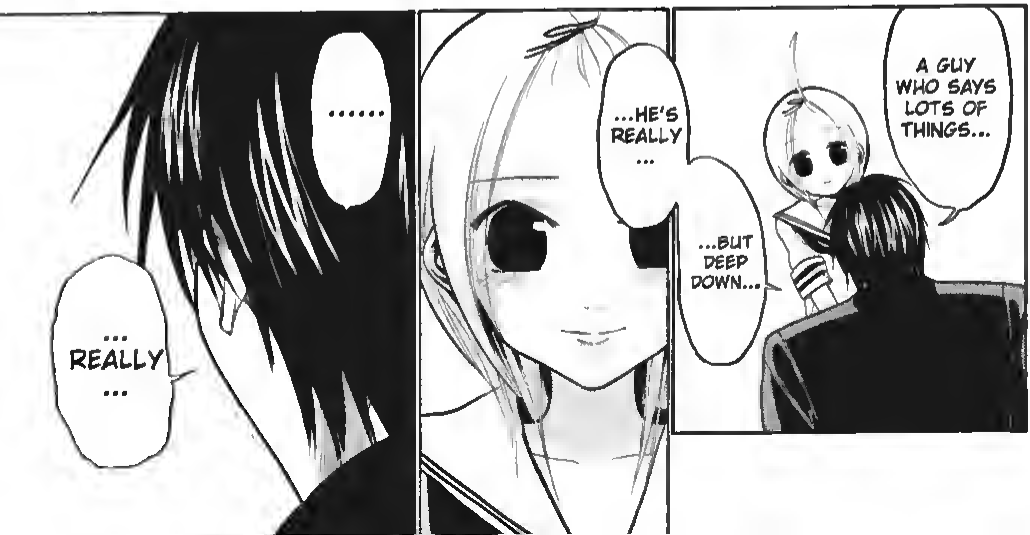
NO.
IN SEVEN DAYS...
...YOU'LL BE ALIVE AND I'LL BE DEAD
SU (SSK)
.....
.....
JI (STARE)
.....
.....!?
HEY...
?

PAKU (CHOMP?)
ぱく
!!!
ごくん
GOKUN (GULP?)
!!?
WHA ...!?
WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT...?
WHY...?
ブワッ...
BUWA (BFF)

I WILL FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE.
.....
!
THE ENTIRE WORLD COULD ABANDON YOU...
...AND I WILL BE HERE.

I WILL NOT LET YOU BE ALONE.
OKAY?

YOU SHOULD JUST LEAVE ME BEHIND.
YOU DON'T WANT A GUY LIKE THIS...
YOU'RE SO STUPID.
.....
.....
YOU'RE STUPID.
YOU KNOW THAT?


.....
... REALLY ...
...HE'S REALLY ...
...BUT DEEP DOWN...
A GUY WHO SAYS LOTS OF THINGS...

...SCARED OUT OF HIS WITS...
IMAGINING THE POS— SIBILITY...
...THAT HE MIGHT DIE ALONE...

I WANT TO CRY OUT FOR HELP.
I'M SCARED.
I DON'T WANT TO DIE.
...SO CRAZY, I DON'T EVEN UNDER-STAND.
THINGS ARE JUST...
BUT I CAN'T JUST DEMAND THAT.
BUT THEN YOU...
I'M SO PATHE-TIC.
OF COURSE I DESERVE TO BE ABAN-DONED.
SORRY.
DAMN.

CHAPTER 26. THANK YOU – END

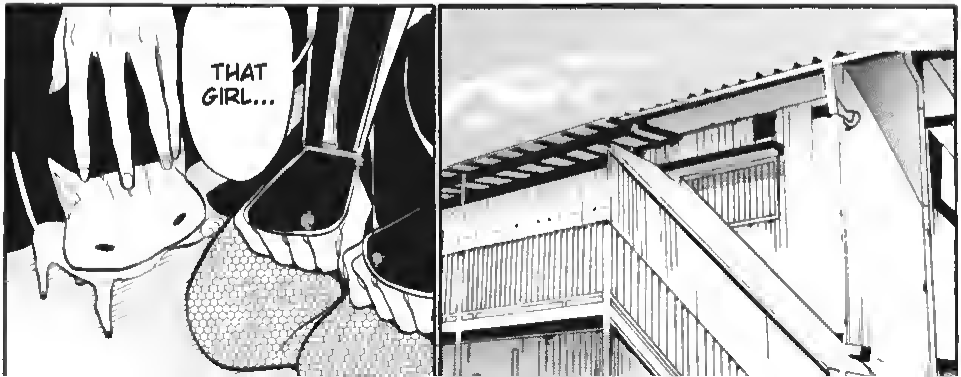
27. BEFORE BATTLE

...SHE WOUND UP TAKING THE SAME POISON AS ME YESTERDAY.
AND THAT'S HOW...
AND I BESEECH YOU FOR HELP...
...THAT I'M SORRY FOR LASHING OUT.
I WANT TO TELL YOU...
OF COURSE ...!
FOR THE TWO OF YOU... ANYTHING!
PLEASE LEND YOUR STRENGTH ...
...TO HER AND ME.

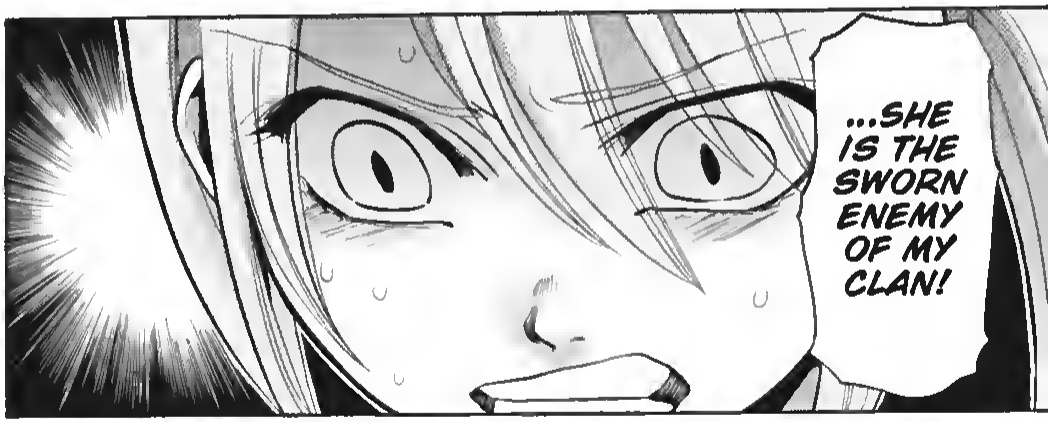
.....?
Y—
YEAH
YOU SEE?
IT SEEMS LIKE ...
... THERE'S SOME-THING ... DIFFERENT ABOUT THEM TODAY...
....
PER-HAPS...

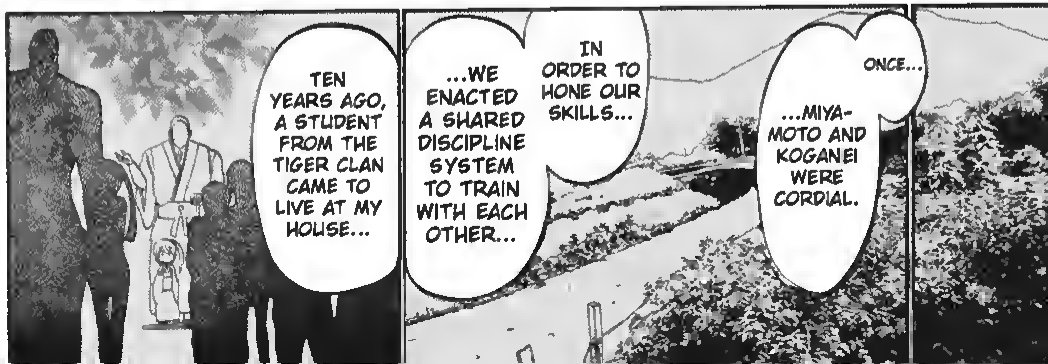
...LAST NIGHT...
...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...
GIKU (GERK)
...BETWEEN YOU TWO?
.....
I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU...
OH, I KNOW!
??
WE'RE GOING TO INVADE THE ENEMY'S LAIR.
SO I WANT TO KNOW ...
...MORE ABOUT THEM.

WHAT THEY'RE LIKE...
HOW THEY THINK...
IF WE HAVE ANY CHANCE OF BEATING THEM...


THAT GIRL...

"THAT GIRL"?
SHE MEANS MY SISTER.
...IS A DEMON ...!
DO YOU KNOW HER?
.....
.....

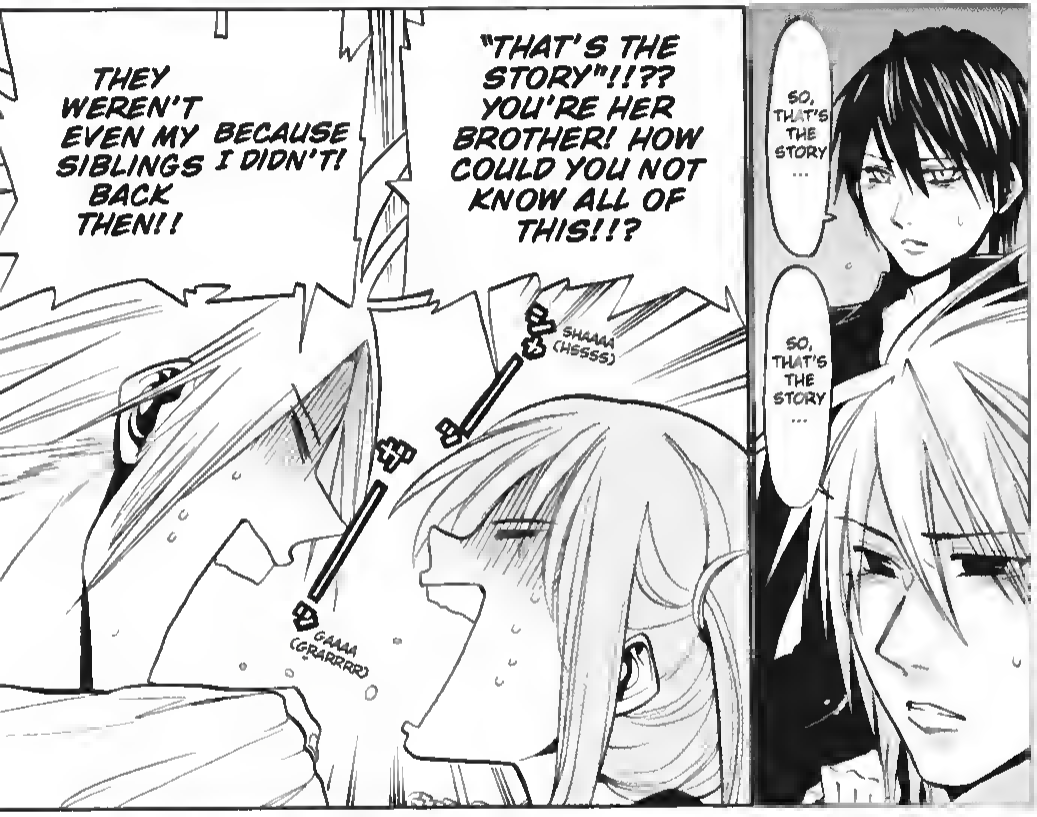

...SHE IS THE SWORN ENEMY OF MY CLAN!

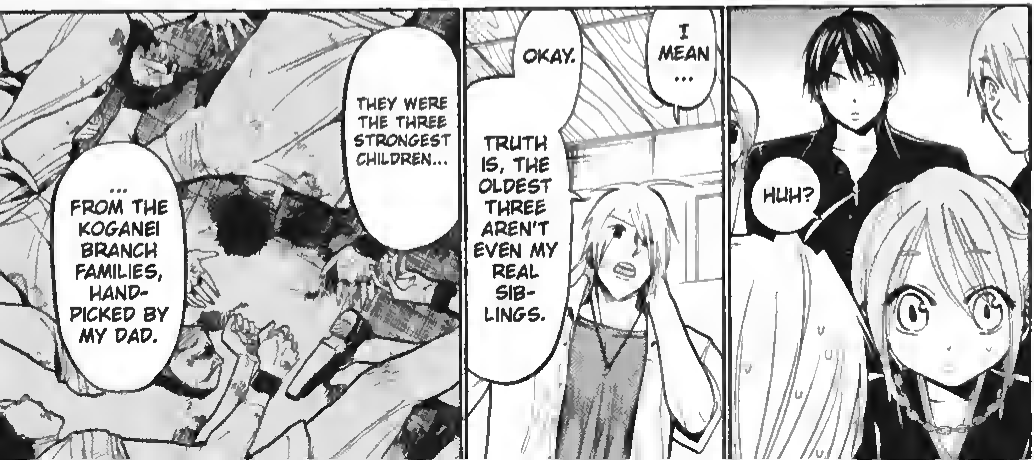

TEN YEARS AGO, A STUDENT FROM THE TIGER CLAN CAME TO LIVE AT MY HOUSE...
...WE ENACTED A SHARED DISCIPLINE SYSTEM TO TRAIN WITH EACH OTHER...
IN ORDER TO HONE OUR SKILLS...
ONCE...
...MIYA-MOTO AND KOGANEI WERE CORDIAL.

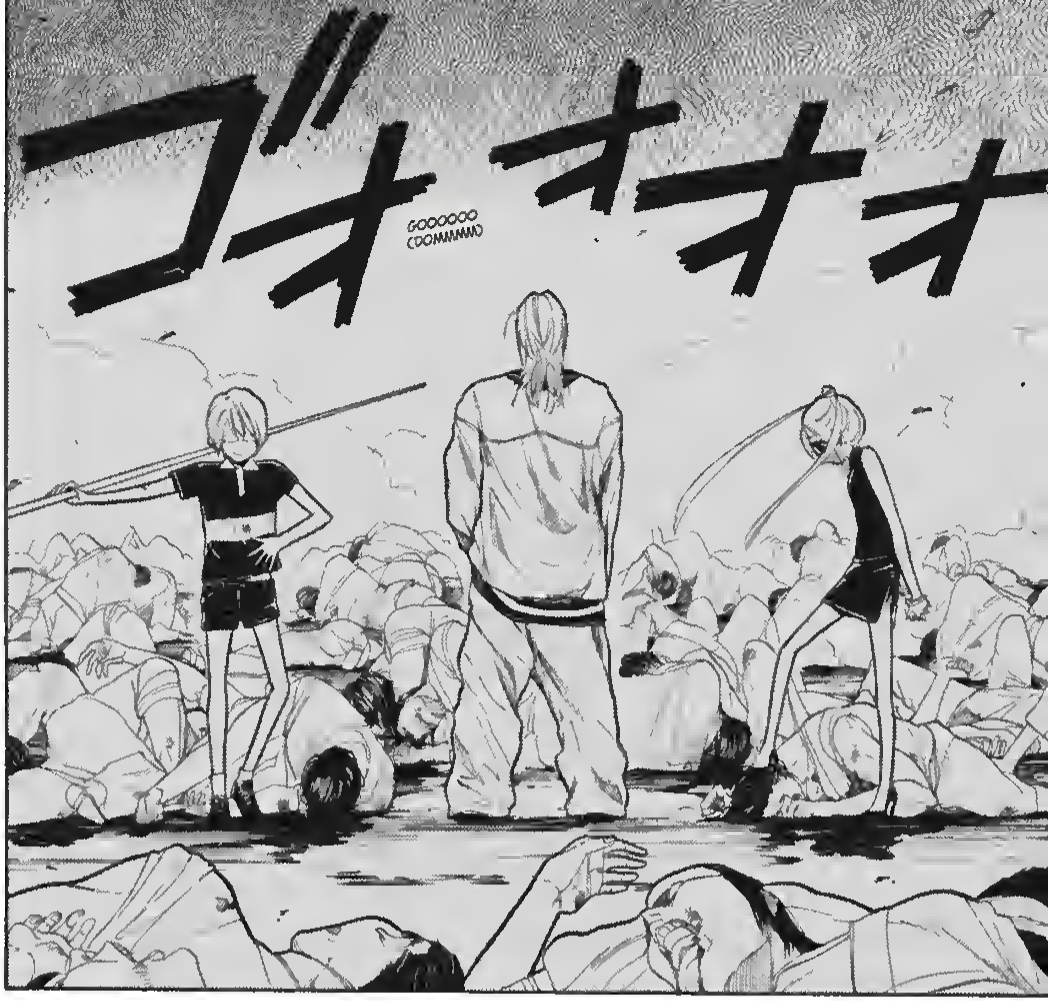
TENTEN KOGANEI.
SHE CAME TO MY HOME MANY TIMES.
MY FATHER, DOTING AND KIND...
... TRUSTED AND WELCOMED HER.
HE SHOWED HER EVERY-THING...
...AND I LOOKED UP TO HER AS A SIS-TER.
HIYA!
IRONA-CHAN!
BUT...
...HER FRIENDLY TRAINEE ACT WAS A FRONT.
OVER THE COURSE OF EIGHT YEARS...
...SHE SECRETLY ...
...STOLE ALL OF OUR CLAN'S SECRET ARTS AND CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS...
...BRAIN-WASHED OUR MEMBERS, AND TOOK THEM WITH HER.

BY THE TIME I BECAME NEE-SAN'S SERVANT...
...THERE WERE NO OTHER PEOPLE LEFT.
...IT WAS TOO LATE.
...FOR MY CLAN'S DOWN-FALL...
BY THE TIME I REALIZED THAT SHE WAS THE ONE RESPON-SIBLE...
...FOR EIGHT WHOLE YEARS.
I TRUSTED HER...
WHY ...?
...ARE ACTUALLY STOLEN MEMBERS OF THE MIYAMOTO CLAN.
TENTEN'S PIGTAILED HENCH-MEN...
DOGOGO
BWOOM
WHY!?
WHAT DOES SHE HAVE AGAINST ME...!!?

SHIIIIN
(SILENCE)


THEY WEREN'T EVEN MY SIBLINGS BACK THEN!!
BECAUSE I DIDN'T!
"THAT'S THE STORY"!!?? YOU'RE HER BROTHER! HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW ALL OF THIS!!?
SHAAAA (HSSSS)
GAAAA (GRARRRR)
SO, THAT'S THE STORY ...
SO, THAT'S THE STORY ...

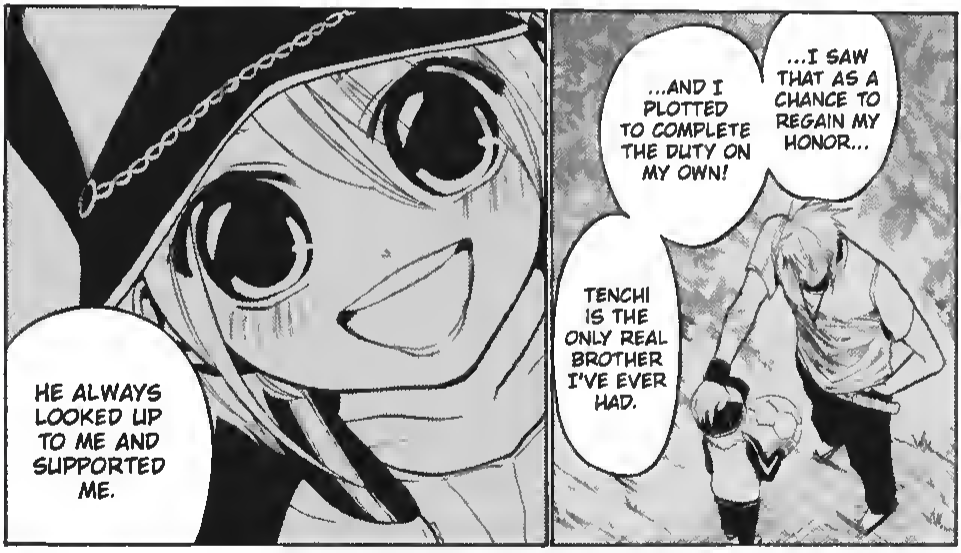

... FROM THE KOGANEI BRANCH FAMILIES, HAND-PICKED BY MY DAD.
THEY WERE THE THREE STRONGEST CHILDREN...
OKAY.
TRUTH IS, THE OLDEST THREE AREN'T EVEN MY REAL SIB-LINGS.
I MEAN ...
HUH?

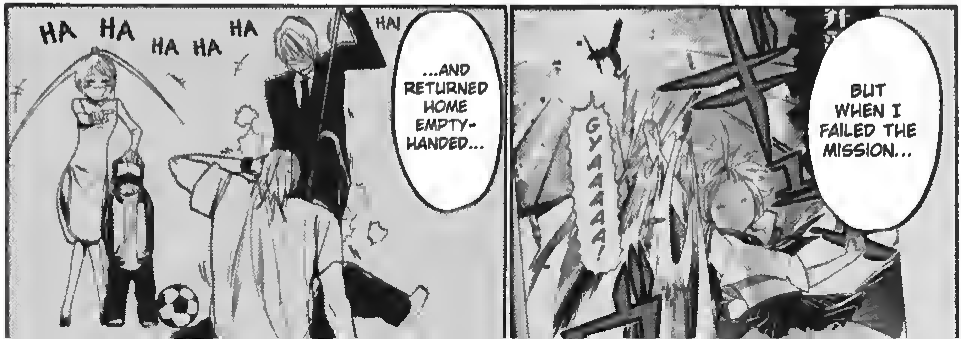

ゴゴゴゴ
GOOOOOO
(DOMMMM)

...TENREI KOGANEI, OF SHIN-GOKUZAN.
...TENTEN KOGANEI, OF YOUKA GOKUDOU...
...TENGA KOGANEI, OF MUKYUU REN-GOKUKEI...
FROM THE KOGANEI BRANCH FAMILIES ...

AFTER THAT, THERE WERE FIVE OF US...
ONE DAY SEVEN YEARS AGO, DAD SUDDENLY DECIDED TO FOSTER THEM.

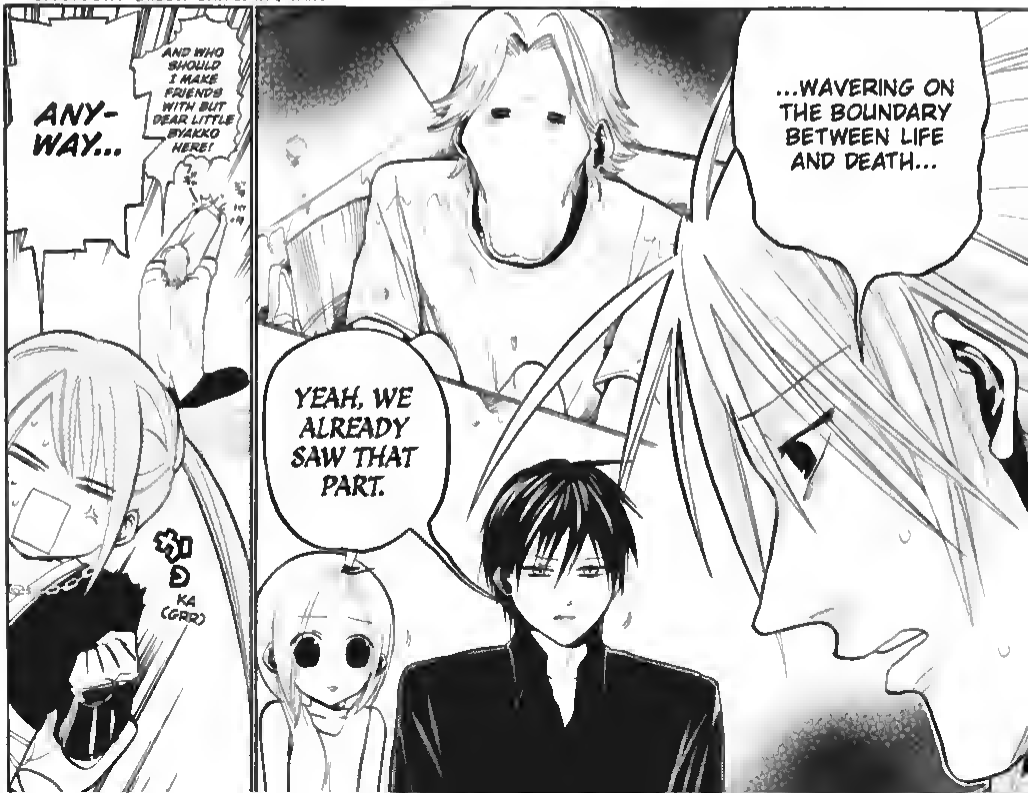
...A PLAN FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF KOUSHI INUZUKA ...
I PANICKED! AND WHEN I HEARD DAD MENTION...
... TENGA WAS ABOUT TO BE CONFIRMED AS THE HEIR TO THE CLAN LEADERSHIP!
THEN, JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO
IN THE KOGANEI, POWER IS EVERYTHING.
EVEN BRANCH MEMBERS CAN RISE IN PRESTIGE IF THEY ARE STRONG.
AND THE ELDEST SON OF THE MAIN LINEAGE WILL BE IGNORED IF HE IS WEAK.
THAT'S WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO ME.


HE ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO ME AND SUPPORTED ME.
TENCHI IS THE ONLY REAL BROTHER I'VE EVER HAD.
...AND I PLOTTED TO COMPLETE THE DUTY ON MY OWN!
...I SAW THAT AS A CHANCE TO REGAIN MY HONOR...


HA HA HA HA HA HA
...AND RETURNED HOME EMPTY-HANDED...
GYAAAAA!
BUT WHEN I FAILED THE MISSION...

I RAN AWAY...
...SO THE MANTLE PASSED TO TENGA.
AND WORSE, DAD WAS FELLED WHILE I WAS GONE...
...EVEN HE GREW DISILLUSIONED WITH ME...
HAHAHA
HA

SFX. FUGYAA (HISS)/ JITA BATA (FLAIL)


ANY-WAY...
AND WHO SHOULD I MAKE FRIENDS WITH BUT DEAR LITTLE BYAKKO HERE!
KA (GRR)
...WAVERING ON THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH...
YEAH, WE ALREADY SAW THAT PART.

.....
.....
WE MIGHT HAVE LOST IN THE PAST...
...I KNOW WE WILL WIN...!
NO MATTER HOW STRONG THE ENEMY IS.
!
...BUT I CAN'T STAND TO SEE THE BOTH OF YOU DIE...
DIE...
.....
CHIRA (PEEK)
LET'S TRAIN AS HARD AS WE CAN FOR WHAT TIME WE HAVE LEFT!
WA (RAHH)
IT'LL BE OKAY! WE'LL FIGHT AND OVER-COME!
.....

SO WHY ARE YOU SO HUNG UP ON NOT DOIN' ANY MARTIAL ARTS?
YOU SHOULD! YOU SHOULD DEFEND YOURSELF
YOU REALLY OUGHT TO SHAPE UP, OR ELSE!
WHY DO YOU NOT SEEK THE MEANS TO PROTECT YOURSELF!!?
.....
.....
I CAN DO THIS TOO...

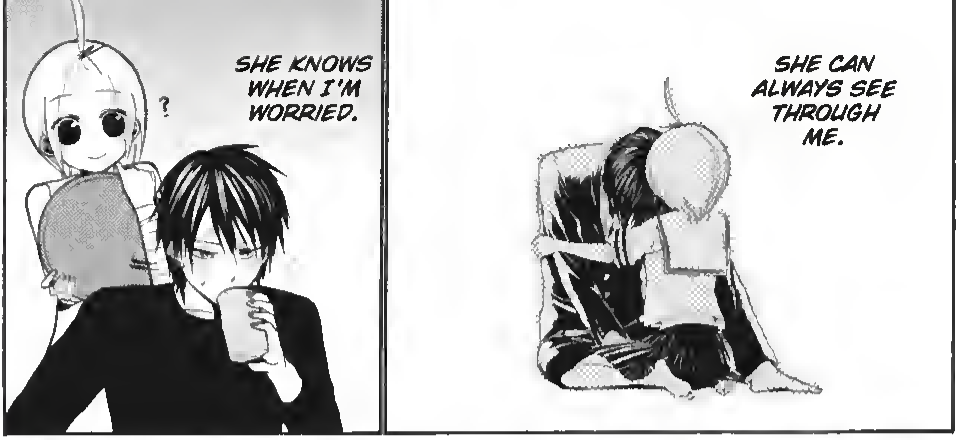
I WANT TO TRY SOME-THING.
JUST GIVE ME FIVE DAYS.
FIVE DAYS.
I'M GOING TO READ THE MARTIAL ARTS SCROLLS...
LET'S DO IT!
I CAN'T JUST SIT BACK AND DO NOTH-ING...
WA (RAHH)
THE FIVE OF US WILL TRAIN TO OUR FULLEST FOR THE NEXT FIVE DAYS!
INUZUKA!! ARE YOU FINALLY READY TO TRY IT OUT!?

THIS TIME, WE'RE GOING TO WIN!!
JUST YOU WAIT, KOGA-NEIS...
DON (BOOM)

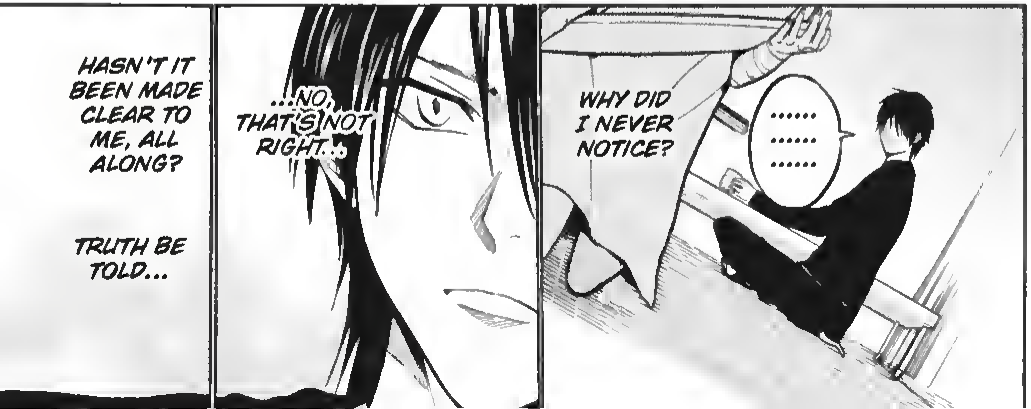
INUZUKA-KUN IS WHAT...!?
WHILE KOUSHI'S GROUP BEGAN THEIR TRAINING...

THAT CAN'T BE...
...AND HAS ONE WEEK TO LIVE.
HE WAS POISONED BY ASSAS-SINS...
THAT'S RIGHT.
HOWEVER, THERE IS A WAY TO SAVE HIM.
SO TELL ME...
...WHAT WILL YOU DO?
KOUSHI-DONO AND HIS COMPAN-IONS ARE DESPERATE.
BUT THEY WILL BE FEARSOME OPPONENTS.
BY DEFEATING THOSE ASSAS-SINS AND PROCURING THE ANTI-DOTE.
...GRANDMA.
LISTEN ...
.....
I...

I HAVE A REQUEST...
KI!! (FLASH)
I'M SURE THAT YOU CAN.
I KNOW YOU, KOUSHI-DONO.
SU (SSK)
...BUT CAN I DO IT...?
I SAID I WOULD READ IT...
SHE DID IT AGAIN...
!
NIKO (GRIN)

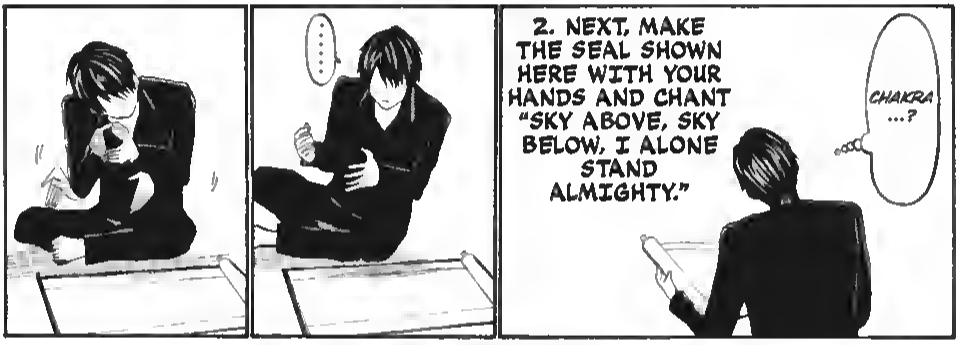

SHE KNOWS WHEN I'M WORRIED.
?
SHE CAN ALWAYS SEE THROUGH ME.

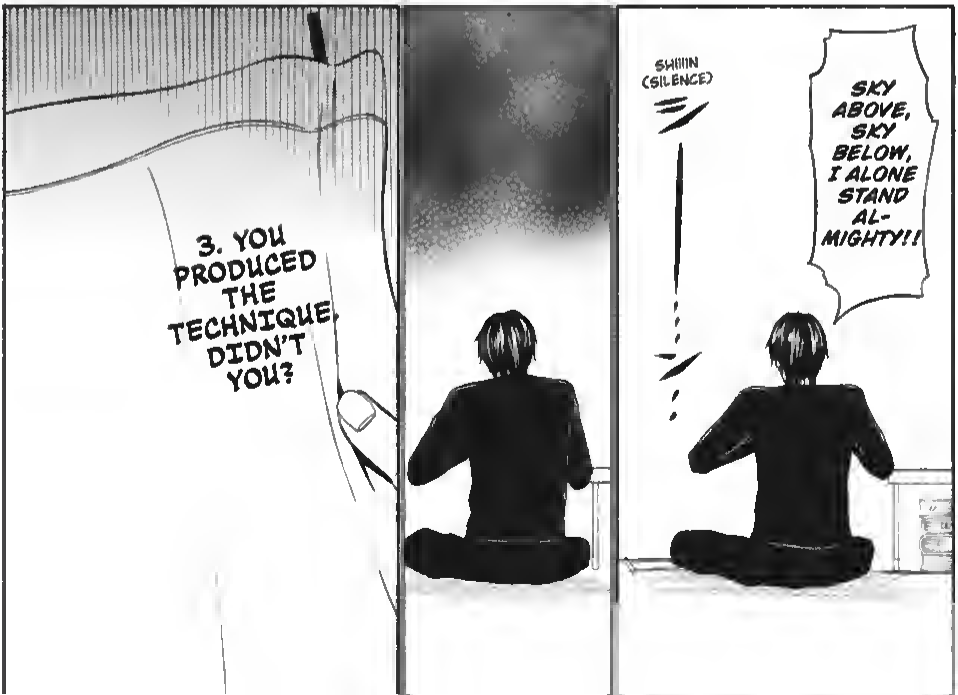
EVERY TIME I'M ABOUT TO CRACK...
!!!
...WHY DO YOU HAVE YOUR FIST CLENCHED THAT WAY!!?
...SHE'S ALWAYS RIGHT THERE.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I WILL ALWAYS AT BY YOUR SIDE.


HASN'T IT BEEN MADE CLEAR TO ME, ALL ALONG?
TRUTH BE TOLD...
...NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT...
WHY DID I NEVER NOTICE?
.....
.....
.....

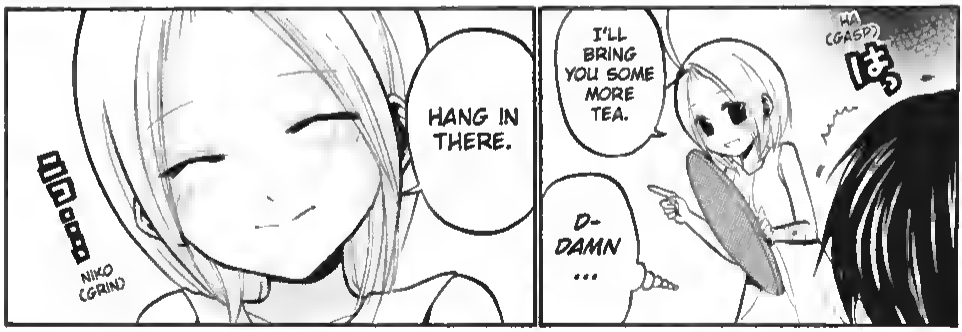
HA (GASP)
YOU CAN DO IT!
REMEMBER YOUR FATHER'S WORDS!
DAMN.
KOUSHI-DONO?
...I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN HOW GREAT SHE IS.
LISTEN TO ME, KOUSHI...
SUU (SFFF)
.....
THAT'S IT!
I'LL GIVE IT A TRY!
RIGHT...
I SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON TRAINING!
...THAT YOU CAN MASTER THEM!!
KI (FLASH)
BA (ZWUPP)
...THE "DOUJUTSU" OF THE INUZUKAS...
...CAN BE PERFORMED IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE THE TALENT.
AS YOU ARE MY SON, I AM QUITE CONFIDENT...

.....?
1. FIRST, RELEASE THE CHAKRA IN BOTH EYES.


.....
2. NEXT, MAKE THE SEAL SHOWN HERE WITH YOUR HANDS AND CHANT "SKY ABOVE, SKY BELOW, I ALONE STAND ALMIGHTY."
CHAKRA ...?


3. YOU PRODUCED THE TECHNIQUE, DIDN'T YOU?
SHIIIN (SILENCE)
SKY ABOVE, SKY BELOW, I ALONE STAND AL-MIGHTY!!

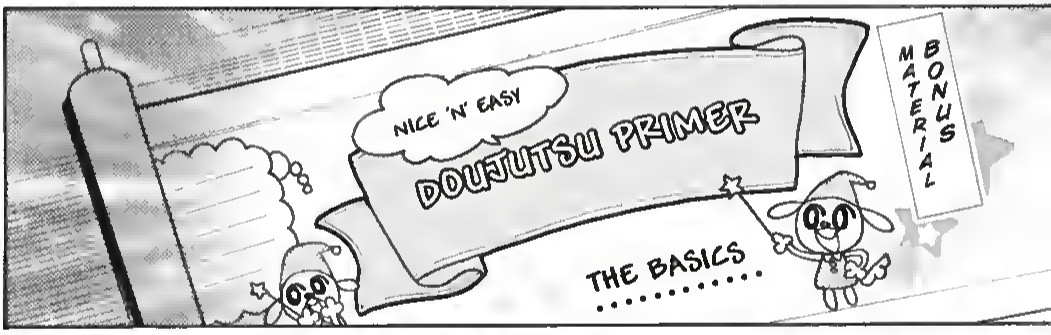
KOUSHI-
DONO...

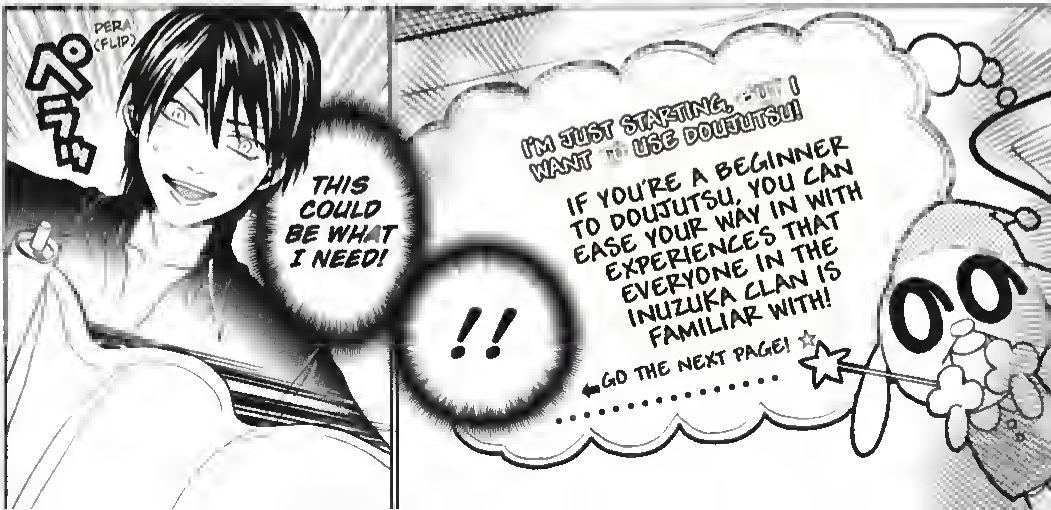

HANG IN THERE.
NIKO (GRIN)
I'LL BRING YOU SOME MORE TEA.
HA (GASP)
D-DAMN ...

GU (GRRG)
I CAN'T GIVE UP.. NOT HERE...

I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT.
HANG IN THERE, INUZUKA!
SENPAI!
KOUSHI-DONO...
IF I WANT TO MEET THEIR EXPECTA-TIONS...
...I WILL STAY BY YOUR SIDE.
...AND REWARD HER FEELINGS FOR ME...

I CAN DO THIS!!
I MUST DO THIS!!
...THEN I WILL DO THIS!!


NICE 'N' EASY
DOUJUTSU PRIMER
THE BASICS
BONUS MATERIAL


PERA (FLIP)
THIS COULD BE WHAT I NEED!
!!
I'M JUST STARTING, BUT I WANT TO USE DOUJUTSU!
IF YOU'RE A BEGINNER TO DOUJUTSU, YOU CAN EASE YOUR WAY IN WITH EXPERIENCES THAT EVERYONE IN THE INUZUKA CLAN IS FAMILIAR WITH!
GO THE NEXT PAGE!

STEP ☆

"TAKE DOWN A BIRD!"

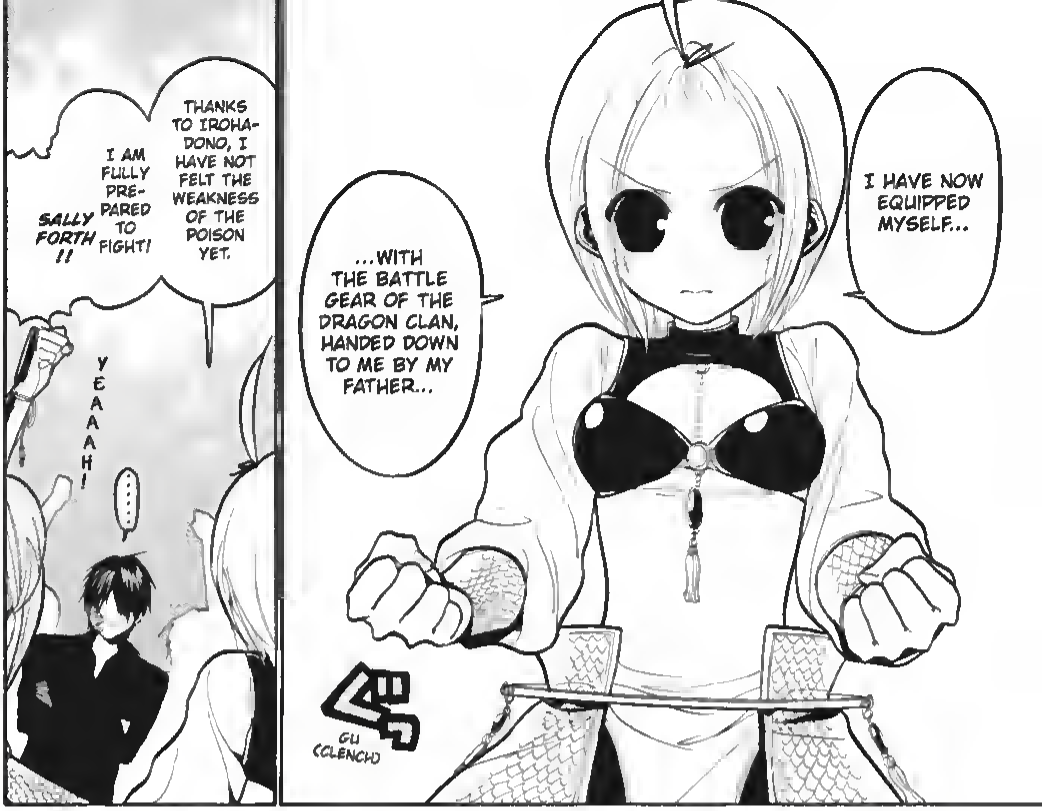
JU
(SZZ)
YOU WERE WATCHING A BIRD ONE MOMENT, AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNEW, IT WAS DEAD. HAVEN'T WE ALL HAD THIS HAPPEN TO US AT ONE POINT?
GO THE NEXT PAGE! ☆

THIS IS THE KOGANEI VILLAGE...
AND FIVE DAYS LATER...

YEAH !!
IT IS TIME FOR BATTLE !!
ZA!! (ZSHH)

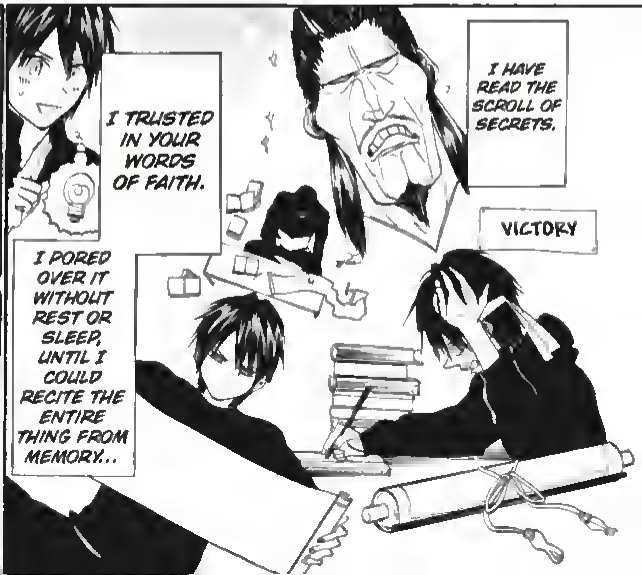
CHAPTER 27. BEFORE BATTLE — END

28. THE BRILLIANCE OF A POWERFUL WIFE


I HAVE NOW EQUIPPED MYSELF...
...WITH THE BATTLE GEAR OF THE DRAGON CLAN, HANDED DOWN TO ME BY MY FATHER...
GU (CLENCH)
THANKS TO IROHA-DONO, I HAVE NOT FELT THE WEAKNESS OF THE POISON YET.
I AM FULLY PRE-PARED TO FIGHT!
SALLY FORTH !!
YEAAAH!

WHEN YOU READ THIS, I WILL BE SNEAKING INTO THE KOGANEI VILLAGE.
ZA
ZA (RUSTLE)
ZA
DEAR FATHER ...
...HOW ARE YOU?

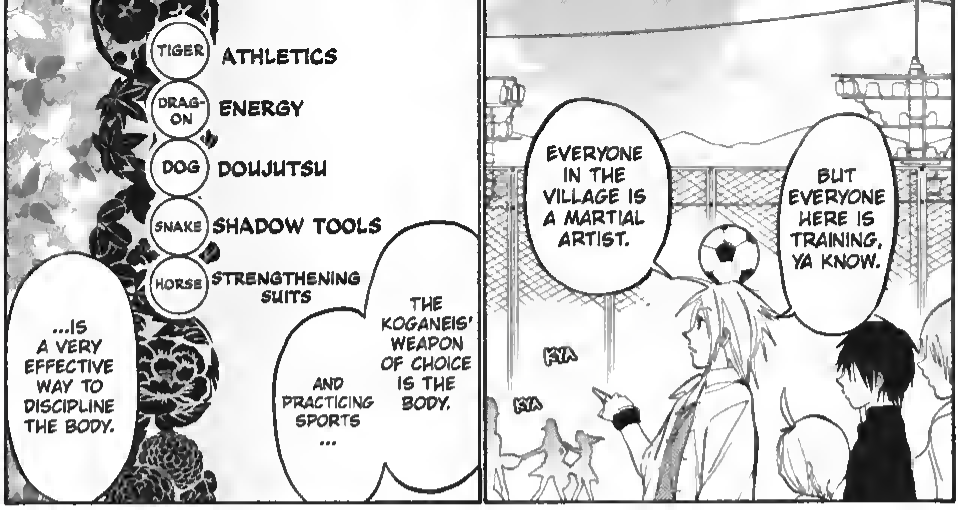
...I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY..
...AND AT LAST..

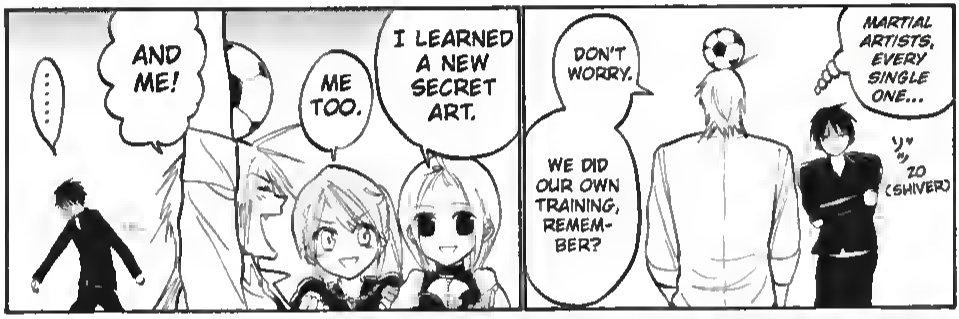

I TRUSTED IN YOUR WORDS OF FAITH.
I HAVE READ THE SCROLL OF SECRETS.
VICTORY
I PORED OVER IT WITHOUT REST OR SLEEP, UNTIL I COULD RECITE THE ENTIRE THING FROM MEMORY...

...TO UNDER-STAND A SINGLE WORD OF IT ...
...THAT I FAILED...
カア
KAA
KAA (CAWW)
カア
SUTEEEN (FWOMP)
ズテーン
BUT WHAT THE HELL IS CHAKRA, ANYWAY!?
"THIS MEANS SHOOT CHAKRA WITH YOUR EYES."
MAN-UAL
KILL THE ENEMY WITH YOUR EYES!
THAT HURTS!
GYAAAA!
カアー
KAAAA
OW...
OWW!
KAAAA
KILL WITH EYES.
KILL WITH EYES.
JI (STARE)

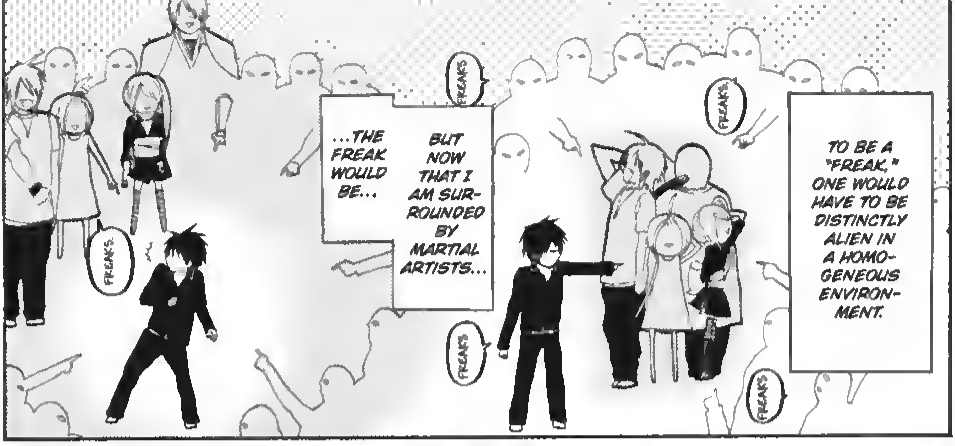
I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO USE ANY DOUJUTSU...
KAAA
KAAA (CAWW)
WHAT FEROCIOUS SCARS! HE MUST HAVE UNDERGONE WITHERING TRAINING!
LOOKIN' GOOD!
.....
.....
FATHER ...!!
ALL RIGHT, THEN! THE VILLAGE ENTRANCE IS UP AHEAD!
ZA (ZSH)
ZA
ZA
IF I CAN'T EVEN TAKE OUT A BIRD...
...THEN HOW WILL I HUNT TIGERS?
ZA
ZA
LET'S GO!

KAKIIIN (CLANG)
キーン…
KYA
KYA
……
KAKO (TOKKO)
IS THIS REALLY IT...?
KYA!!
KYA!!
RUN, RUN!
KYA!!
KYA!!
12
7
KYARA!!
KYARA!!
I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE A WHOLE CLAN OF KILLERS.
YEAH.
IT SEEMS REALLY... TRANQUIL.
THIS IS THE KOGANEI VILLAGE...?
WA-SHI!
WA-SHI!
0
6


TIGER ATHLETICS
DRAGON ENERGY
DOG DOUJUTSU
SNAKE SHADOW TOOLS
HORSE STRENGTHENING SUITS
...IS A VERY EFFECTIVE WAY TO DISCIPLINE THE BODY.
AND PRACTICING SPORTS ...
THE KOGANEIS' WEAPON OF CHOICE IS THE BODY.
EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS A MARTIAL ARTIST.
BUT EVERYONE HERE IS TRAINING, YA KNOW.
KYA
KYA


.....
AND ME!
ME TOO.
I LEARNED A NEW SECRET ART.
DON'T WORRY.
WE DID OUR OWN TRAINING, REMEMBER?
MARTIAL ARTISTS, EVERY SINGLE ONE...
ZO (SHIVER)

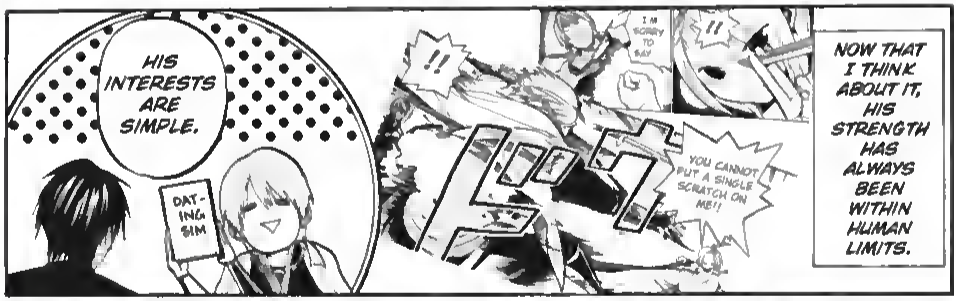
...WHEN I FELT INFERIOR TO THE "FREAKS" I SO OFTEN SCORNED...
TO THINK THE DAY WOULD FINALLY ARRIVE...
I CAN'T JUST TELL THEM THAT I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO FAILED TO DO ANY-THING...
NO, WAIT.
HMM?
DAMMIT!

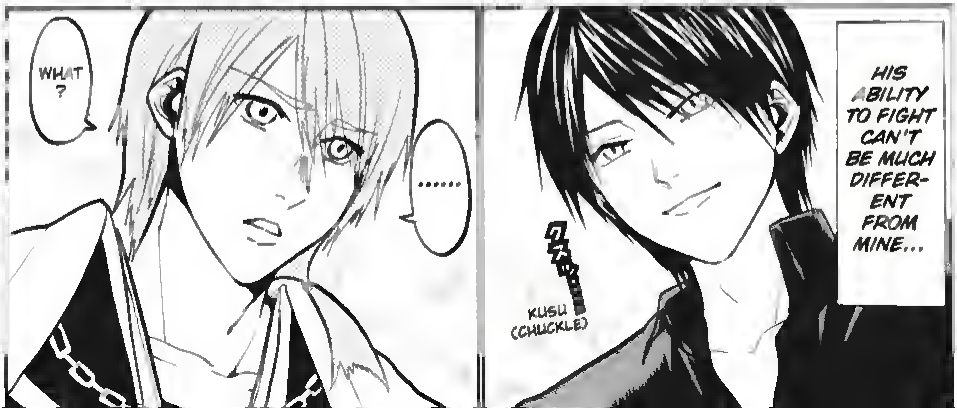

TO BE A "FREAK," ONE WOULD HAVE TO BE DISTINCTLY ALIEN IN A HOMOGENEOUS ENVIRONMENT.
BUT NOW THAT I AM SURROUNDED BY MARTIAL ARTISTS...
...THE FREAK WOULD BE...
FREAKS
FREAKS
FREAKS
FREAKS
FREAKS

...ME!?

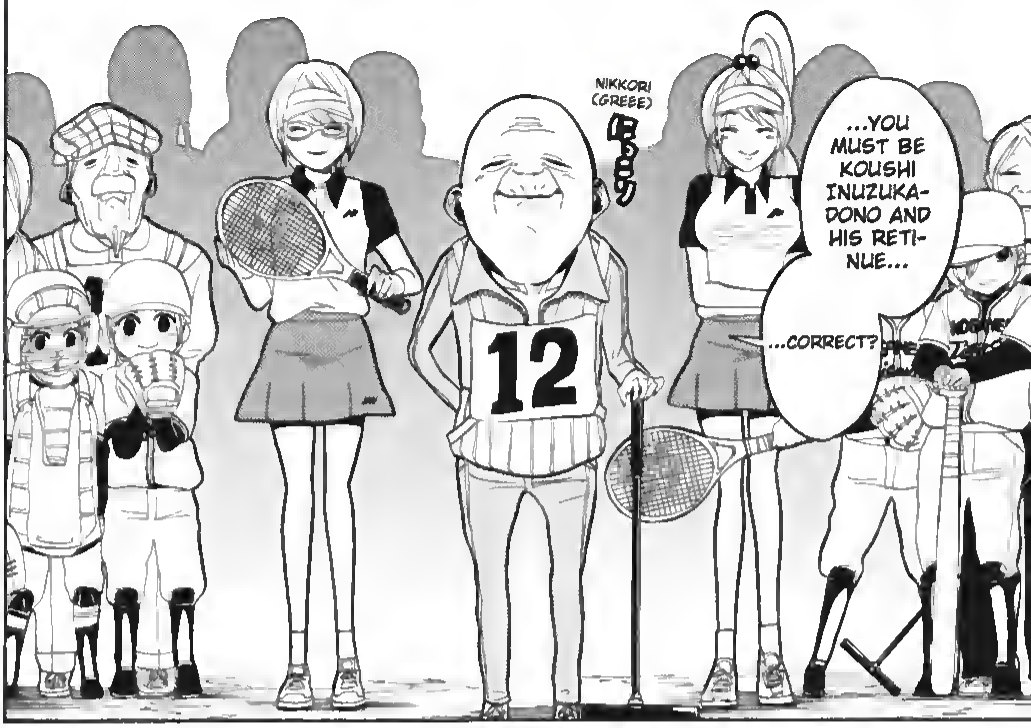
NOOO! I DON'T WANT TO BE A FREAK!
YOU GUYS ARE SO LUCKY.
I WISH I COULD HAVE BEEN BORN TO A MARTIAL ARTS FAMILY.
?
HE'S JUST A COMMON STREET THUG ORIGINALLY.

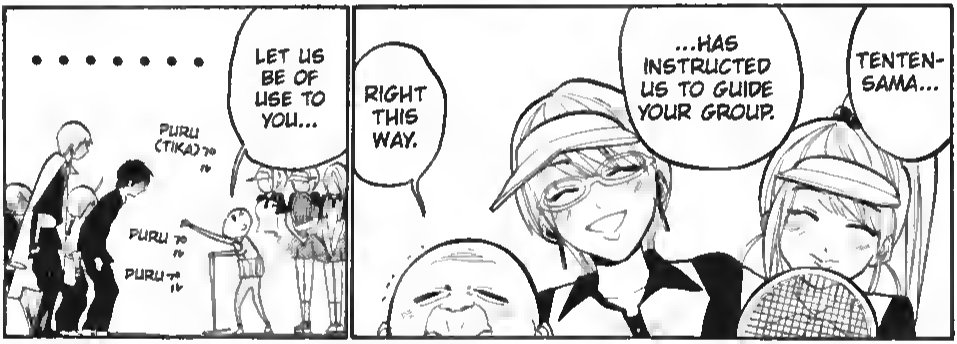
!!
HE'S A NORMAL PERSON.
THERE'S A LIMIT TO HIS FIGHTING POWER.
NORMAL PERSON
IS THAT RIGHT!?


HIS INTERESTS ARE SIMPLE.
DAT-ING SIM
!!
I'M SORRY TO SAY
!!
YOU CANNOT PUT A SINGLE SCRATCH ON ME!!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HIS STRENGTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN WITHIN HUMAN LIMITS.


WHAT?
.....
KUSU (CHUCKLE)
HIS ABILITY TO FIGHT CAN'T BE MUCH DIFFER-ENT FROM MINE...

ZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA
.....?
ZAWA (MURMUR)
WHAT!?
POMU (PAT)
KOGANEI
6
TIGERS
THAT'S THEM!
ZAWA
IT IS!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
IS THAT THEM?
GAYA
GAYA (YAMMER)
WHAT THE...?
WH—
13
WHICH MEANS...
YOU HAVE RETURNED TO US.
IS THAT TENKA-SAMA?
OHHH!


NIKKORI (GREEE)
ニッコリ
12
...YOU MUST BE KOUSHI INUZUKA-DONO AND HIS RETINUE...
...CORRECT?


LET US BE OF USE TO YOU...
PURU (TIKA)
PURU
PURU
RIGHT THIS WAY.
...HAS INSTRUCTED US TO GUIDE YOUR GROUP.
TENTEN-SAMA...

WAIT, INUZUKA!!
KATA (SHIVER)
KATA
KATA
...THAT'S A RELIEF.
KATA
KATA
KATA
KATA
KATA
WELL...
HO (WHEW)

ZUGAAAAN
(ZBAAHH)
HUH?

UZU ウズ"
...SO VERY WEAK...
HOW CAN I SAY THIS ...? YOU JUST SEEMED ...
ウズ" UZU (ITCH)
ウズ" UZU
UZU ウズ"
OH! MY PAR-DONS ...!! LOST CON-TROL, THERE ...!!
SFX: ZUBO (THWUK)

...ARE VERY, VERY SPECIAL... THESE PEOPLE...
YOU CAN'T, GRAND-PA!
!?
PERHAPS YOU WOULD MAKE BETTER EXERCISE FOR ME THAN TENTEN-SAMA...?
ブルブル BURU BURU
ブルブル (SHIVER)

GUESTS!!
44
ZUGAG G G (GRAAHHHHH)
EEEEK!!

...BUT THEY'RE FIGHTERS!
THE KOGANEI...
THEY MIGHT LOOK LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE...
IDIOT! WHAT DID I TELL YOU RIGHT OFF THE BAT!?
HEE HEE
HEE HEE HEE
HEE HEE
WHA...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM!?
NO HOGGING ALL THE FUN.
HWA
AAAA
...ARE MARTIAL ARTISTS!!
AA
KYAAAAAAAAA
NOOOOOOOOO!
SUKOOON
SUKOOON
SUKOOON (THWUKK)
DADADADADADADADADADADADADADADADADA

YOU'RE RIGHT.
!
NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.
I DO NOT FEEL MUCH OF A THREAT FROM THESE PEOPLE!
FRIENDS... ...SETTLE DOWN!
GAKIIN (GACHINGGG)
GYAAAAA
THIS IS TERRI-FYING!!
EEEEEE
AAAA!
KIEEEE
!
NO!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR SHOWING OFF, YOU FOOL!
HAN-ZOU!
LEAVE THIS OLD FELLOW TO ME.
BASHI (FWAP)
!!

GUWA (ZOOM)
HAN-ZOUUUU !!
LET'S LEAVE THIS TO THE EX-PERTS.
OH, CRAP ...
YEAH, HE'S A NORM, ISN'T HE!?
BYUN (ZWAP)
FU (SSH)
!?
MY SECRET ART...
.....
?
.....

SHAN!! (SWING)
!!
CRESCENT MOON!
ZUPAAN (THWAK)
GWAA-AHH!!
HE IS TOO MIGHTY!
THAT SWORDSMAN...
HUH?
HUH?

...THE MAN DEEMED WORTHY OF BEING THE SOLE MAN-SERVANT...
HANZOU IS...
HE CAN'T BE THAT GOOD...
NO WAY.
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE ME...!
HMPH... DON'T BE SILLY.
I THOUGHT HE ONLY HAD THE STRENGTH OF A NORMAL PERSON!
RAAA

GYAAAAAAAA!
SINGLE-BLADED MADARA SLICE!
ZUBAAAAAAAA (ZLASHHHH)

AAAAAAH! HOW COME YOU'RE SO STRONG!!?

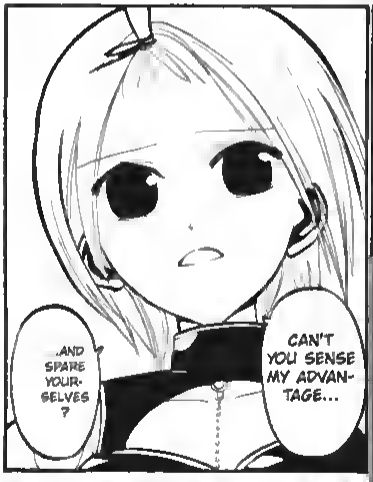
AND HOW IS HE INEXPERIENCED?
UGH.
I HAVE TO SHOW HIM WHAT TRUE MARTIAL ARTS IS ABOUT.
OH, I CAN TELL.
...HANZOU HAS LEARNED TO USE SECRET ARTS, IN HIS OWN INEXPERIENCED WAY!
NO WAY...
IN THE PROCESS OF UNDERGOING GRUELING TRAINING AT MY SIDE...
KARI (CLANK)

SFX: NYU (POP) NYU

SFX: BAKI (CRACK) BAKI BAKI

バキ
BAKI
(CRACK)
バキバキ
BAKI
バキ
BAKI
ガラガラガラー
GARAGARAGARAAA
(CRUMBLE)

ドゥーン
DOOOON
AAH!
BARELY ABLE TO STAND
ドゥーン
DOOOON
ドゥーン
DOOOON
(BOOM)


CAN'T YOU SENSE MY ADVANTAGE...
AND SPARE YOURSELVES ?

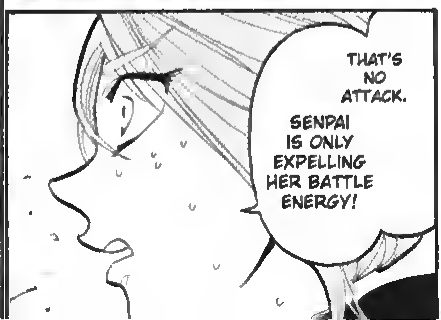
INSOLENCE !!

HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE

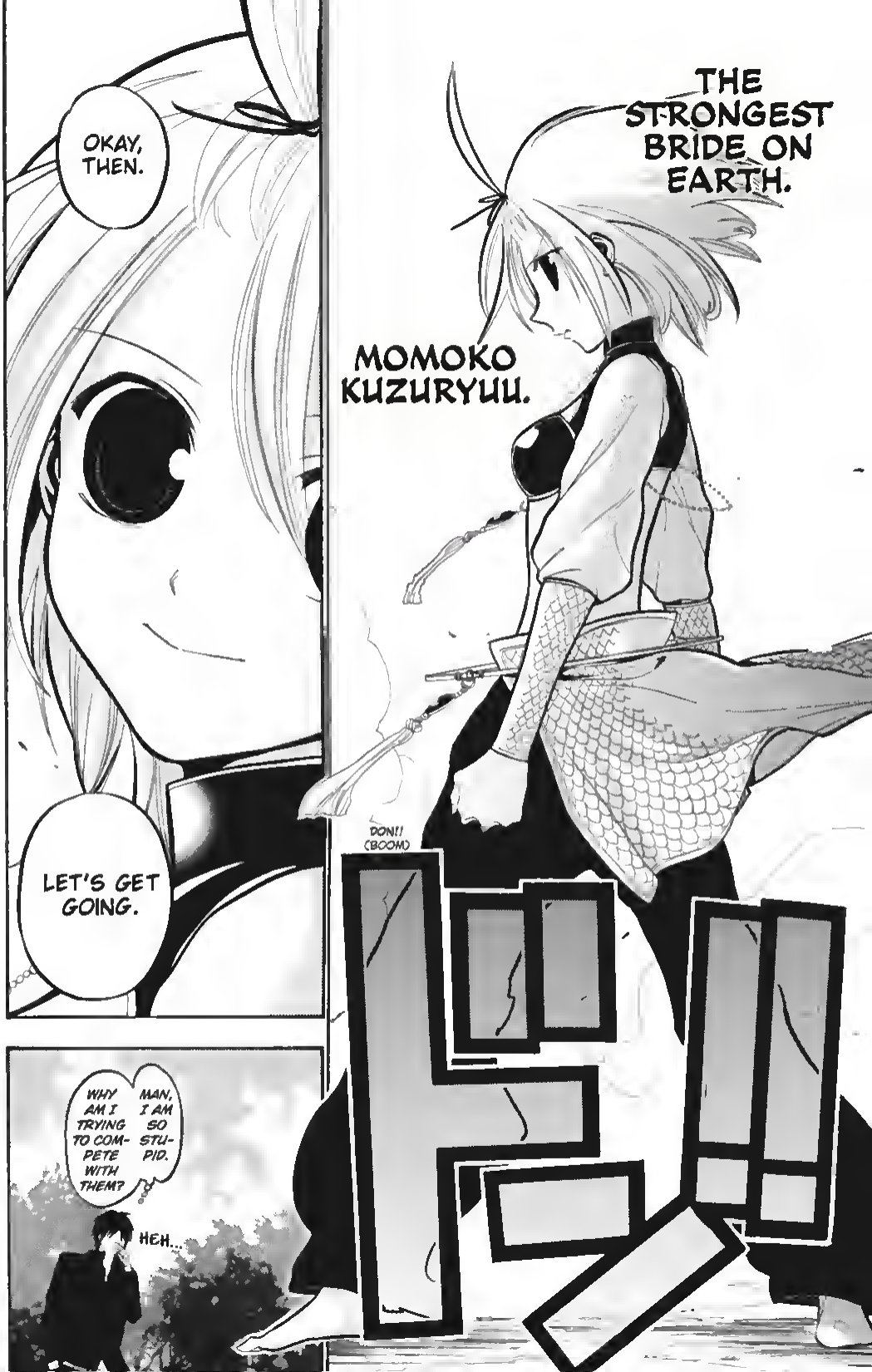
BO
(BOMM)
!!

ZU
(ZMM)
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
ZU
EVERYONE HAS "KI" IN THEIR BODY, THE PURE FORCE OF LIFE.
BUT THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO HAVE SO MUCH OF IT...
...THAT THEY CAN SOLIDIFY IT AND WIELD IT AS A WEAPON...

PIKAAA
(BLINGGG)
WOW ...
WHAT'S THAT SECRET ART CALLED?
OH, NO...


THAT'S NO ATTACK.
SENPAI IS ONLY EXPELLING HER BATTLE ENERGY!

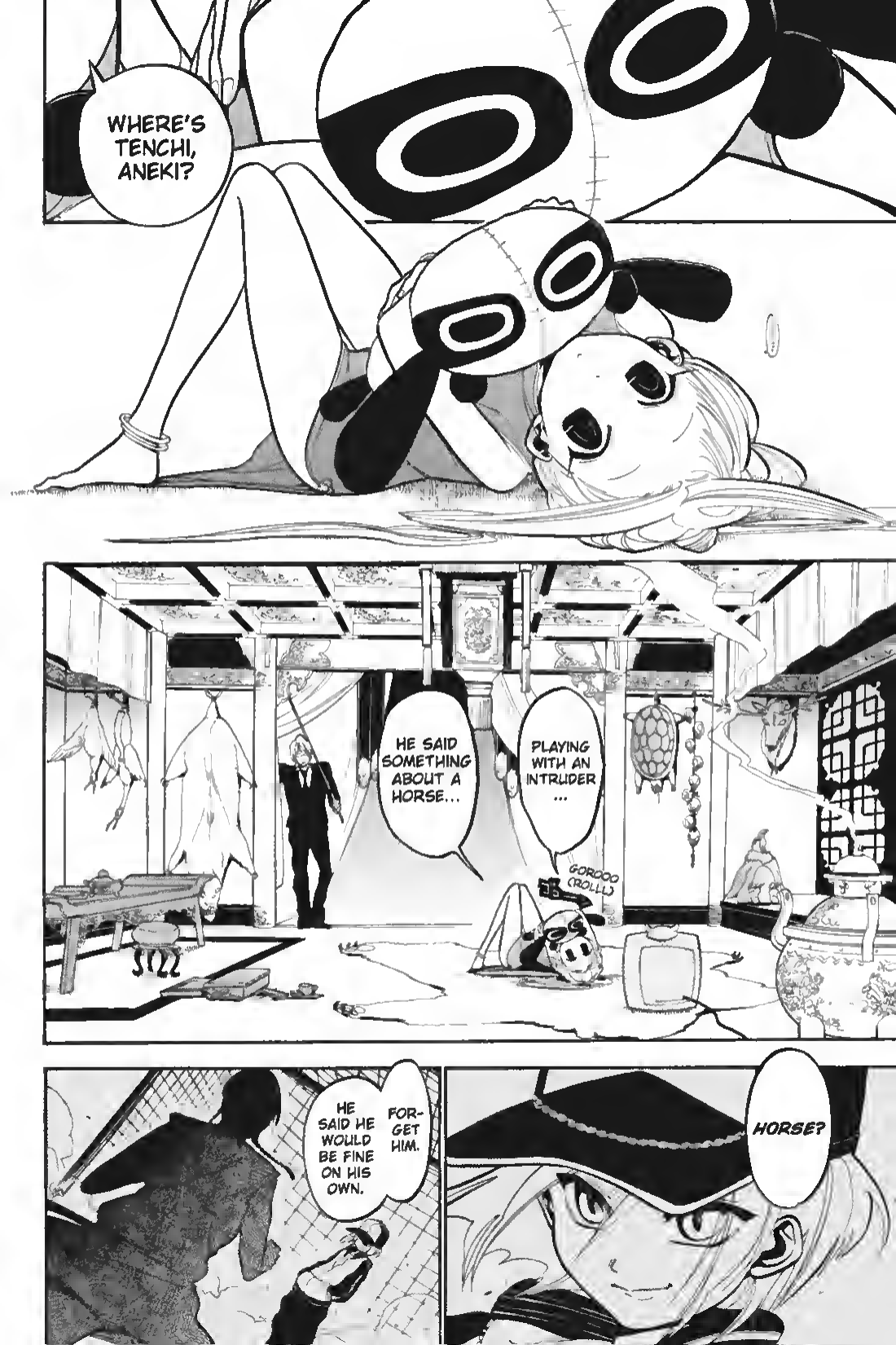
ゴゴゴ...THE CLAN OF THE DRAGON!!!
KIRAAAN (TING)
キラーン
THAT'S MY BRIDE... SHE'S ONE TOUGH COOKIE.
GOGOGO (RRRUMBLE)
ゴゴゴ...ARE THE MOST POWERFUL OF THEM ALL...
GOGOGOGOGOGOGOGOGOGOGOGO

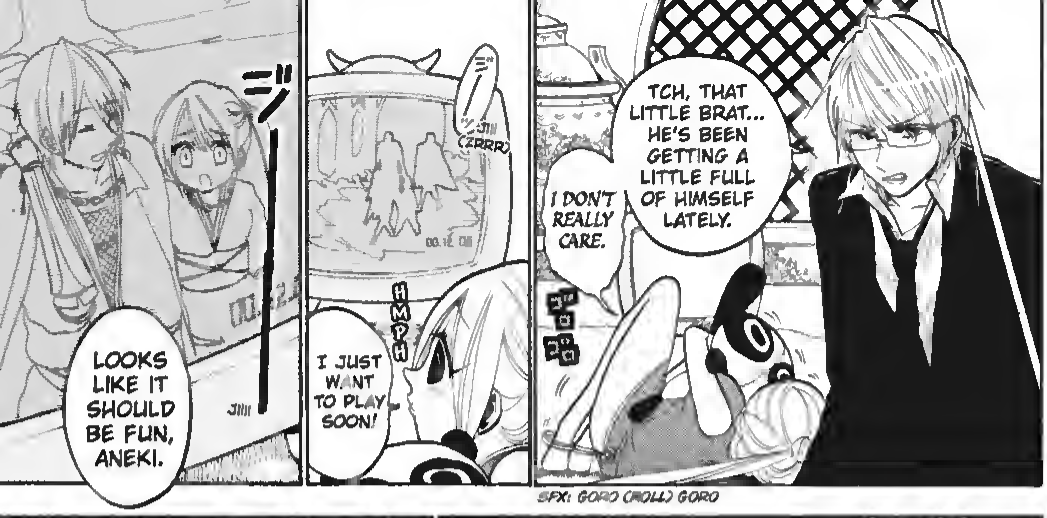

THE STRONGEST BRIDE ON EARTH.
MOMOKO KUZURYUU.
OKAY, THEN.
LET'S GET GOING.
DON!! (BOOM)
WHY AM I TRYING TO COMPETE WITH THEM?
MAN, I AM SO STUPID.
HEH...

...WHAT'S NEXT?
SO...
...BUT IF THEY LEFT A GUIDE, THAT PROBABLY MEANS THEY'VE GOT A DIFFERENT LOCATION ARRANGED...
I FIGURED THAT IF WE WENT BACK TO MY HOUSE, THEY WOULD ALL BE THERE...
I WILL GUIDE YOU THERE...
NIKKORI (GRINN)
HEY... IT'S YOU AGAIN!
PURU (SHIVER)
PURU
PURU
PURU
THIS TIME, I PROMISE TO FULFILL MY DUTY AND BE YOUR GUIDE.
YOU MUST PARDON MY RUDENESS... YOU KIDS ARE QUITE STRONG...
PETAA (CLING)
I LIKE THIS ONE BETTER...
ALL RIGHT, OLD MAN, GRAB ONTO ME.
GO (DONK)
IT'S THIS WAYYY...
IS ME OK?

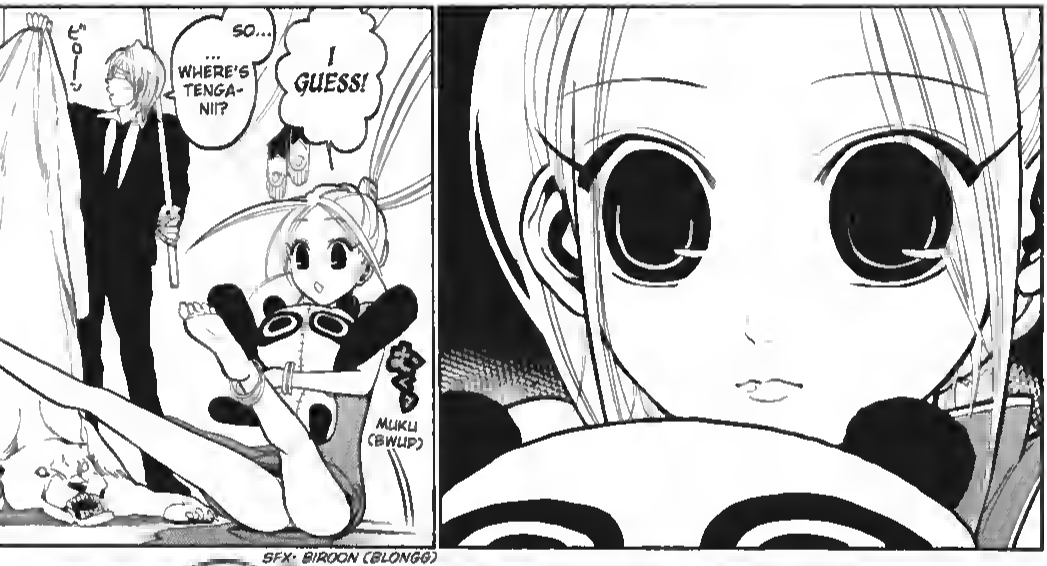
CHAPTER 28. THE BRILLIANCE OF A POWERFUL WIFE – END

29. WELCOME, INTRUDERS


WHERE'S TENCHI, ANEKI?
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A HORSE...
PLAYING WITH AN INTRUDER ...
GOROOO (ROLL)
HE SAID HE WOULD BE FINE ON HIS OWN.
FOR-GET HIM.
HORSE?


LOOKS LIKE IT SHOULD BE FUN, ANEKI.
JIIII
I JUST WANT TO PLAY SOON!
HMPH
JIII (ZRRR)
TCH, THAT LITTLE BRAT... HE'S BEEN GETTING A LITTLE FULL OF HIMSELF LATELY.
I DON'T REALLY CARE.

SFX: GORO (ROLL) GORO



SFX: BIROON (BLONGG)

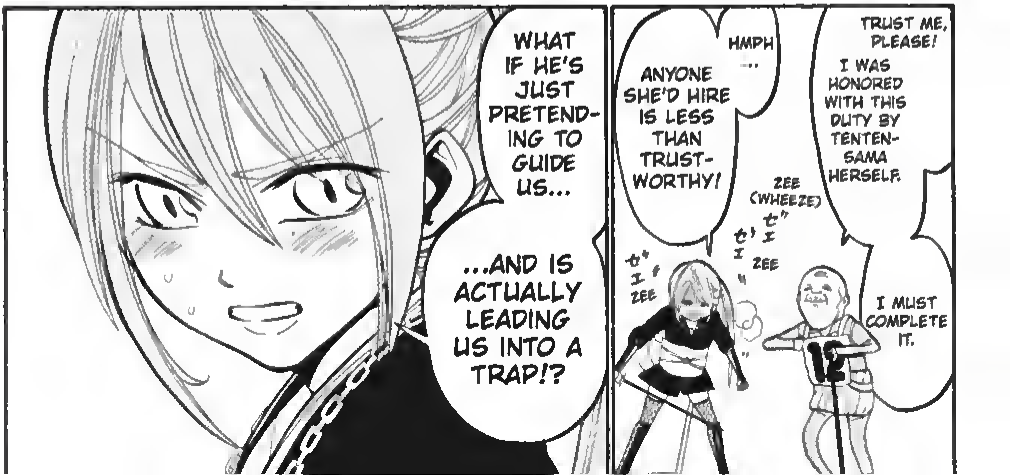
I DON'T THINK SO.
I THINK HE'S HAPPY.
IS HE... ANGRY?
HUH?
...HE HOLED HIMSELF UP IN HIS ROOM.
... AND THEN ...
AHH, I SEE...
...WHO ALWAYS LOOKED DOWN ON THE TIGER.
NOW HE GETS TO FIGHT THE DOG AND DRAGON...
GARURU (GRRRR)
!!
BIKU (TWITCH)
...THE KOGANEI CLAN...
KYAN
KYAN (YIP)
AND FINALLY...
TENGA-NII WILL WIPE THE FLOOR WITH THEM AND THEIR FATHERS...

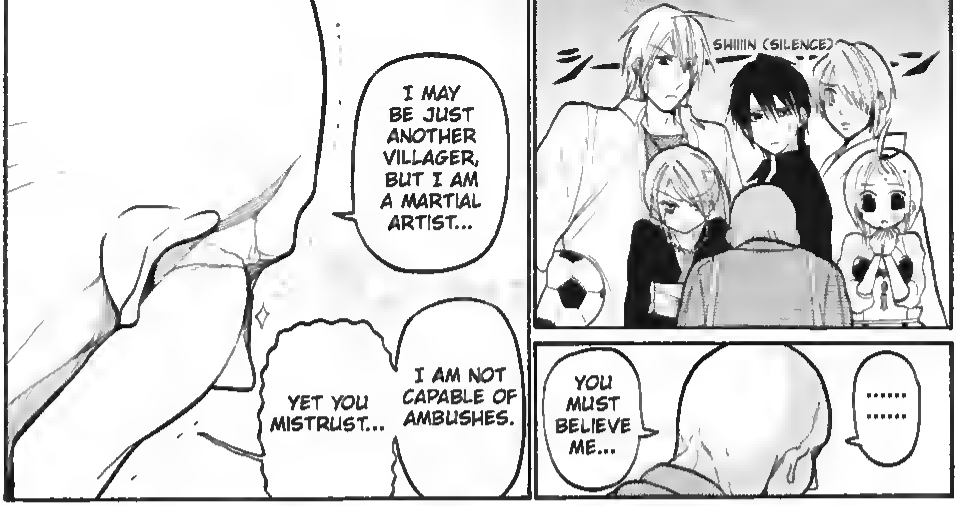
...OF THE TWELVE HEAVENLY GENERALS!!!
...WILL STAND AT THE PINNACLE...
ZUZUZUZUZU

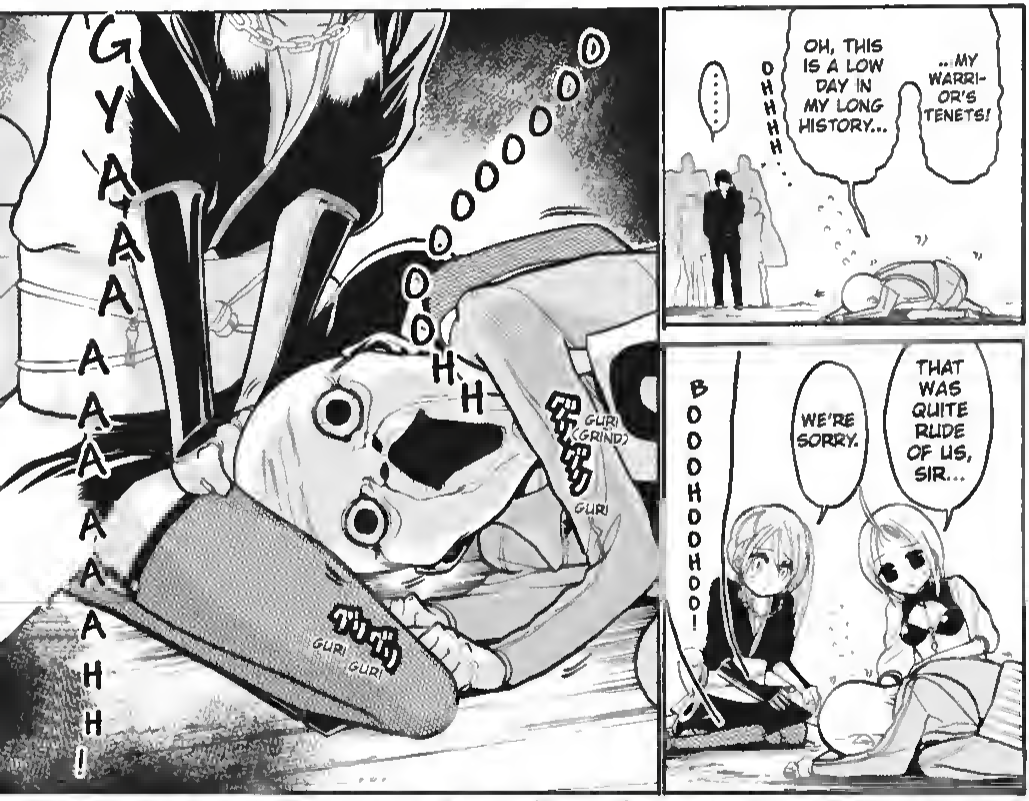
SLIWAA
(SWMMM)
!!
ZO
!!
ZO
!!
ZO
(SHIVER)
!!
PIIIIIN
(TINGGGGG)

SFX: JIIIIII (ZZZRRTT)

HMM...
HE DOESN'T SEEM SENILE TO ME..HE'S FULL OF YOUTHFUL VIM AND VIGOR, SO TO SPEAK...
CAN WE REALLY TRUST THAT SENILE OLD FOOL?
BIIIIII (ZZZRRRR)


WHAT IF HE'S JUST PRETENDING TO GUIDE US...
...AND IS ACTUALLY LEADING US INTO A TRAP!?
HMPH...
ANYONE SHE'D HIRE IS LESS THAN TRUSTWORTHY!
TRUST ME, PLEASE!
I WAS HONORED WITH THIS DUTY BY TENTEN-SAMA HERSELF.
ZEE (WHEEZE)
ZEE
ZEE
I MUST COMPLETE IT.




GYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!
OOOO

WE'RE NOT EAGER TO FIGHT.
WE'RE JUST AT A TIME WHEN WE MUST FIGHT...
...ALWAYS EAGER TO FIGHT.
YOUNG FOLKS ...
HARRUMPH! NO NEED TO BE IN SUCH A HURRY, I SAY.
OH, VERY WELL, VERY WELL!
IS THAT SO...
ZA (RUSTLE)
.....
.....

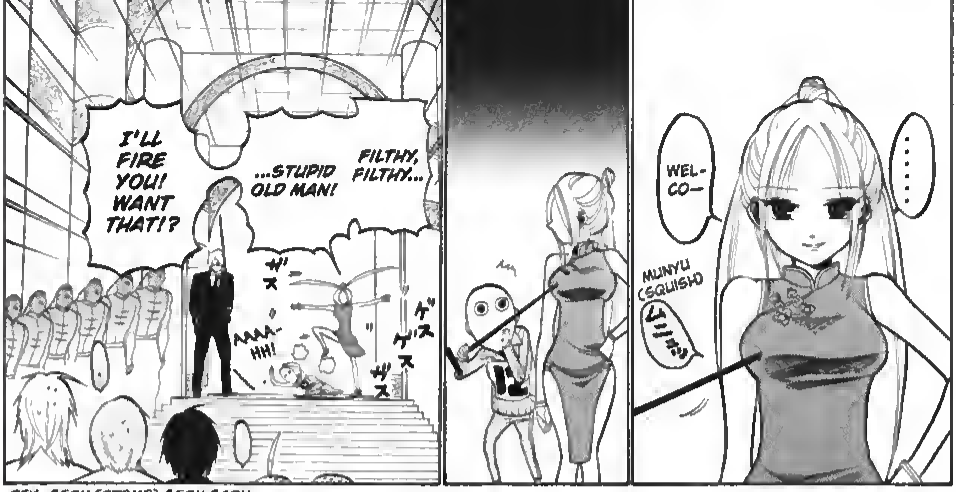
WHERE AM I? I DON'T KNOW THIS AREA.
WE'RE DEEP IN THE WOODS ...
.....
WAIT ...
GEEZER ...?
.....
...IT SEEMS ...
...THE JIG IS UP.
!?
KOOOOO (FWUHHHH)
ZA (ZSHH)
HOW DARE YOU!?
THIS WAS YOUR PLAN ALL ALONG, WASN'T IT!?

TA (TMP)
TA
TA
TA

SE-CRET
KACHI (CLICK)
カチッ
告白
...SWITCH !!
PUSHU (PSHHT)
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ...
GOGOGOGOGO (RRRUMBLE)

IT'S ... ...YOU ...!!
HIII!
GO GO GO GO
ゴゴゴゴ!!
PUSHUUU (PWSHHH)
GAGAGAGAGAGA (D-D-DORMANT)

TENTEN AND TENREI KOGANEI.
GOGOGOGOGO (DOOOOOM)
.....
.....



SFX: GESU (STOMP) GESU GASU

SFX: HA (GASP)

WHAT IS SHE...
.....
.....
.....
...GOING TO DO!?
TAKE OFF...
!?
...YOUR CLOTHES.
JUST START WITH THE TOP FOR NOW.

.....
.....
DO IT.
NOW. GO ON.
.....
.....
WH—
WHY?
.....
SHUT UP...
...AND STRIP.
.....
.....
HON-ESTLY.
YOU NAUGHTY BOY...

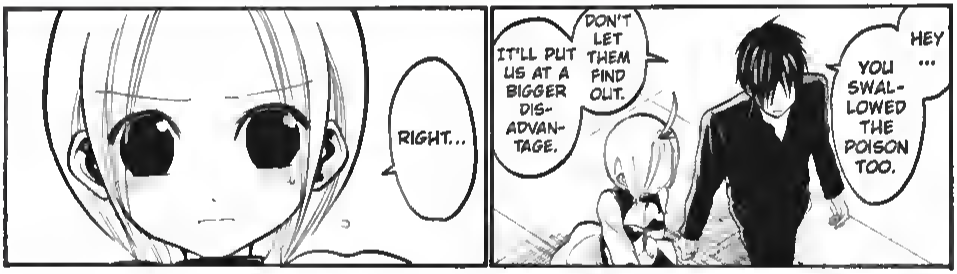
OH...!!
!
SU (SHH)
.....

.....
.....
OH DEAR...
LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED ALREADY...

WELL, IT IS THE SEVENTH DAY...
TSUTSU (TRACE)
SFX: NADE (RUB) NADE
THERE, THERE...
PITA (CLING)
JIWA (RRUB)
POOR THING...
SO (STROKE)

.....
.....
.....
DRINK IT, AND YOU'LL LIVE.
I HAVE THE ANTI-DOTE.
NO PROB-LEM.
BUT IF YOU DON'T DRINK...
PA (FWIP)
!!
KAAA (GRRR?)
NIYA (SMIRK)
SFX: CHIRA (GLANCE)
!!
...YOU WILL DIE.
...THEN BY SUN-SET...
.....
.....
SO!
FOL-LOW ME!
HURRY UP!

DAMN...
THEY'VE GOT THE UPPER HAND...
...BECAUSE OF THIS STUPID POISON...
THE POISON IS PROGRESSING, BUT HASN'T WEAKENED HIM.
HE MUST HAVE TAKEN SUPPRESSANTS TO CALM HIMSELF.
NO FUN.

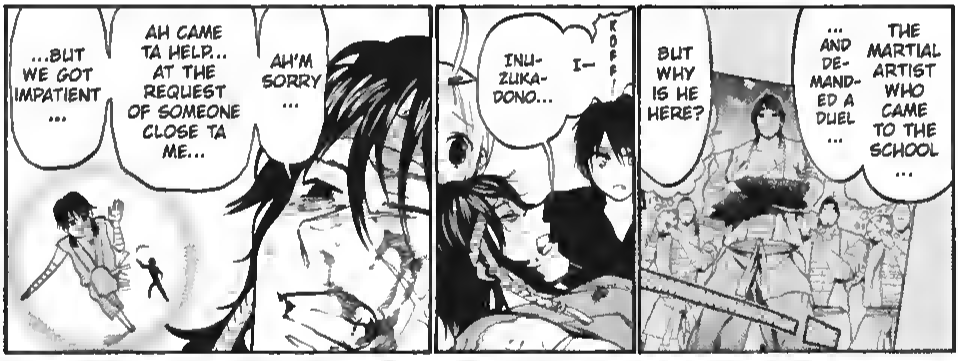

RIGHT...
HEY ... YOU SWALLOWED THE POISON TOO.
DON'T LET THEM FIND OUT.
IT'LL PUT US AT A BIGGER DISADVANTAGE.

.....
.....
HYUUUUUUU (WHOOOOOSH)
.....!?
.....
...IS THE STAGE OF OUR LITTLE COMBAT GAME!
OKAY! RIGHT THROUGH HERE...
TA
TA
TA
TA (TMP)

AAH!
LOOK AT THIS MESS!
WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?
HUH!?
DARA (DANGLE)
ダラ～
TENCHI!
ARE YOU STILL PLAYING...
...WITH THIS "HORSE"?
OH!
IT...
IT'S HIM...
WHY IS HE HERE!?

CHAPTER 29.-WELCOME, INTRUDERS - END

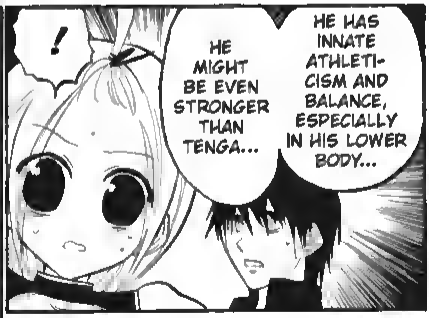
...HIKARU NAKAJIMA-DONO!
WHY, THIS IS...


...BUT WE GOT IMPATIENT ...
AH CAME TA HELP... AT THE REQUEST OF SOMEONE CLOSE TA ME...
AH'M SORRY ...
I—
KOFF!
INU-ZUKA-DONO...
BUT WHY IS HE HERE?
... AND DE-MAND-ED A DUEL ...
THE MARTIAL ARTIST WHO CAME TO THE SCHOOL ...

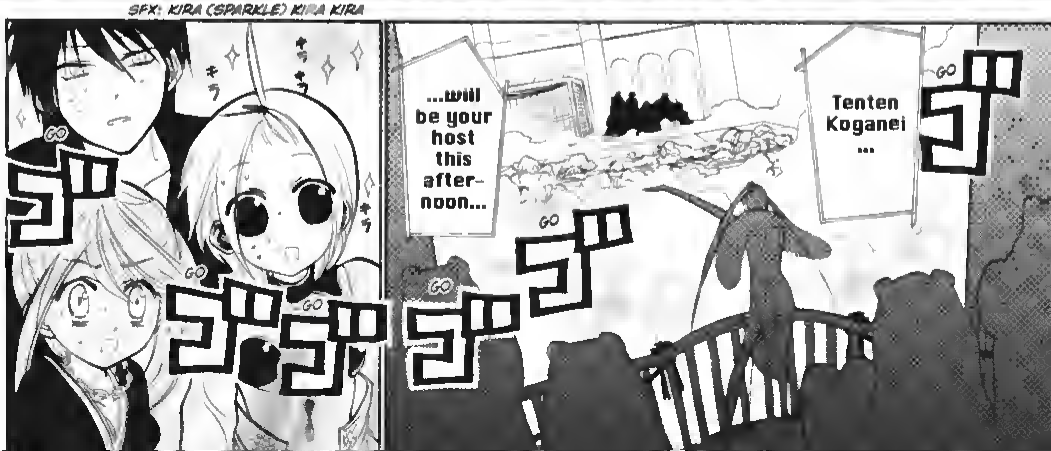
.....
...JES' A LIL' BIT TOO EARLY...!!
BYUUUUUUUUUUU
(BWOOOOOOOSHHHH)
... AND WE STARTED FIGHTIN' ...

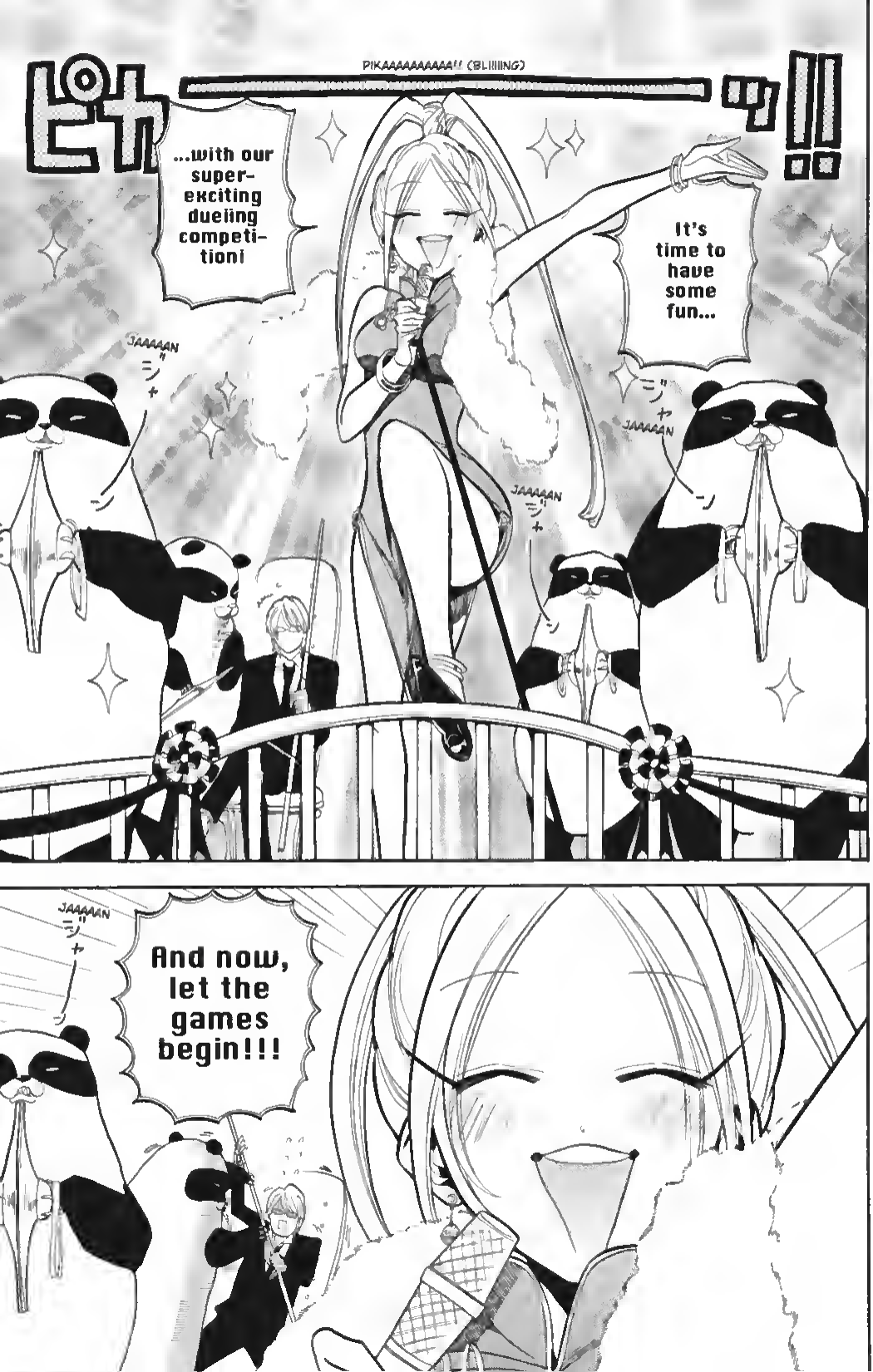
30. GLADIATORIAL SOCCER (1)

SFX: PIIII (SKREEE)



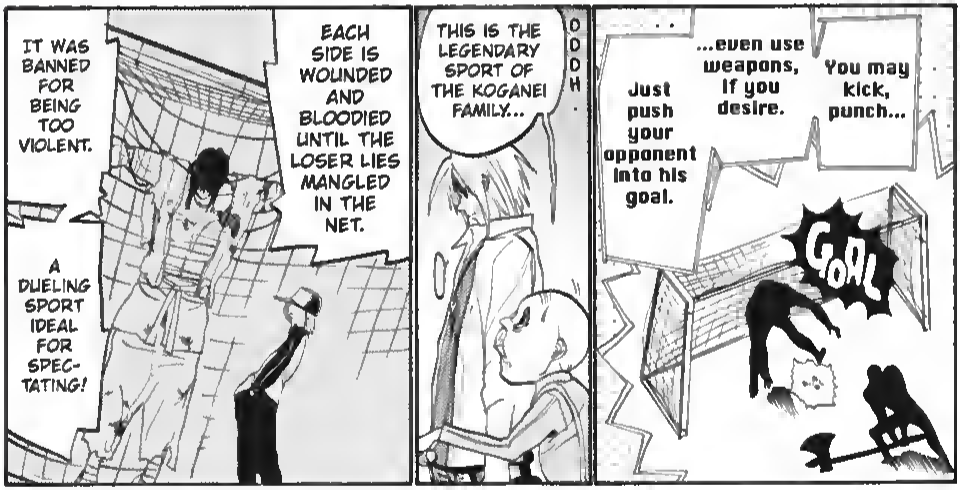
SFX: KIRA (SPARKLE) KIRA KIRA




PIKAAAAAAAAA!! (BLIIIING)
...with our super-exciting dueling competition!
It's time to have some fun...
JAAAAAN
JAAAAAN
JAAAAAN
JAAAAAN
And now, let the games begin!!!

Who will emerge victorious?
In our first match:
It's an all-out showdown between the Koganei Siblings and the Inuzuka Alliance...
M-MATCH ...?
...Tenka Koganei!
Tenchi Koganei versus...
The method of combat will be...
"Gladiatorial Soccer"!
GLADIATORIAL SOCCER
ジャン
JAN
(TA-DAA)

...the "ball" is the opponent himself.
...in gladia-torial soccer...
Allow me to ex-plain.
GLADI-WHAT?
?
?
How-ever...
You win by putting the ball into the other side's goal.
The rules are simple: It is, for most intents and purposes, regular soccer.


IT WAS BANNED FOR BEING TOO VIOLENT.
EACH SIDE IS WOUNDED AND BLOODIED UNTIL THE LOSER LIES MANGLED IN THE NET.
A DUELING SPORT IDEAL FOR SPEC-TATING!
THIS IS THE LEGENDARY SPORT OF THE KOGANEI FAMILY...
ODDH.
Just push your opponent into his goal.
...even use weapons, if you desire.
You may kick, punch...
GOAL

NON. NON. NON...
COME DOWN AND FIGHT ME! RIGHT NOW!
GIVE US THE ANTI-DOTE!
I'M SICK OF ALL THIS...!
.....
ARENA ...?
GAMES ...?

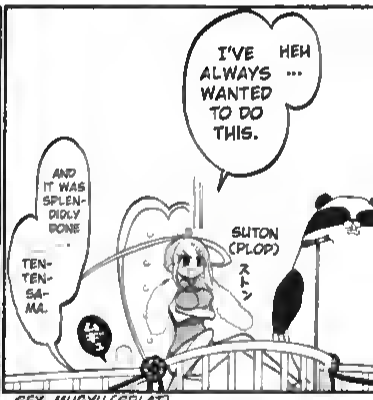
When you defeat one of us in a match...
...you will get that compound.
Each of the four of us is carrying one.
There are four different compounds that make up the antidote.

We don't want the fun to be over right away...
...That's why we arranged this competition.

Now, you listen to me.
Everyone else come to your seats on the second floor...
DAMN!

SO WE HAVE TO BEAT ALL FOUR OF YOU TO CREATE THE ANTIDOTE?
That's correct!

...WORTH FALLING HEAD OVER HEELS FOR...
HAA (HUFF)
HAA


I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THIS.
HEH ...
AND IT WAS SPLENDIDLY DONE
TEN-TEN-SA-MA.
SUTON (PLOP)
スト
SFX. MUGYU (SPLAT)

I CAN INDEED SEE...
...THAT YOU ARE A MASTER...

Now, then! Let the first match...
GUSA (GRSHH)
...begin!!
ZA (ZMM)

BECKY...
...I'VE GOT TO DO MY BEST, HERE.
MAKE SURE TO ROOT ME ON...
...LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO.
TON (TAP)
JI (STARE)
.....
SOCCER, HUH?
.....
MU (GRR)
PATHETIC...
HA... (SIGH)
.....
I USED TO TEACH YOU SOCCER...
...BACK IN THE DAY...

DON'T MESS AROUND WITH YOUR BIG BROTHER ...
SU (SHH)
COME ON, NOW.
.....
USED TO, YES.
.....
...TENCHI!!
DON (BOOM)
Ohhh! And Tenka makes the first move!
.....?
What's this? Tenka, of all people, with a confident grin?
NIYA (GRIN)

I KNOW WITHOUT A DOUBT...
...I CAN WIN THIS!

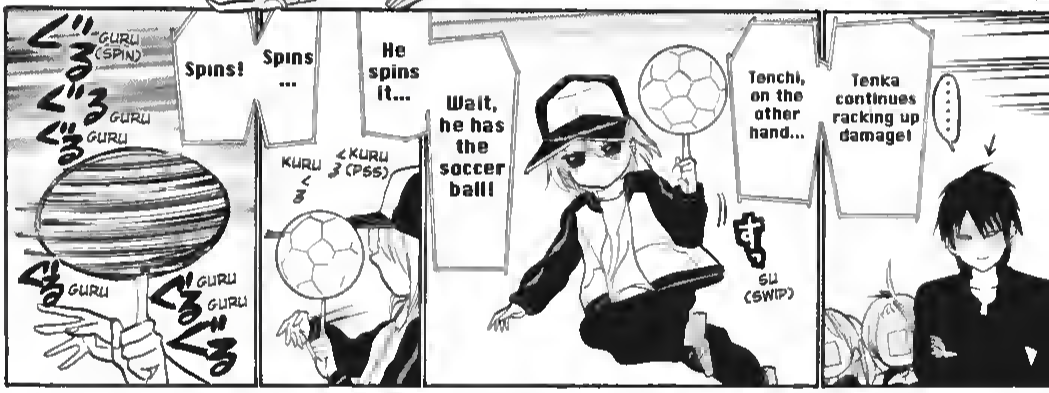
TENCHI MIGHT BE TOUGH, SURE.
IN A NORMAL FIGHT I WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE.
BUT...
...UNDER THESE RULES...
DO YOU THINK...
...HE MIGHT ACTU-ALLY BE ABLE TO WIN ...?
I MEAN, LOOK AT THEM...
!
GUGUGUGUGUGUGU (RRRUMBLE)

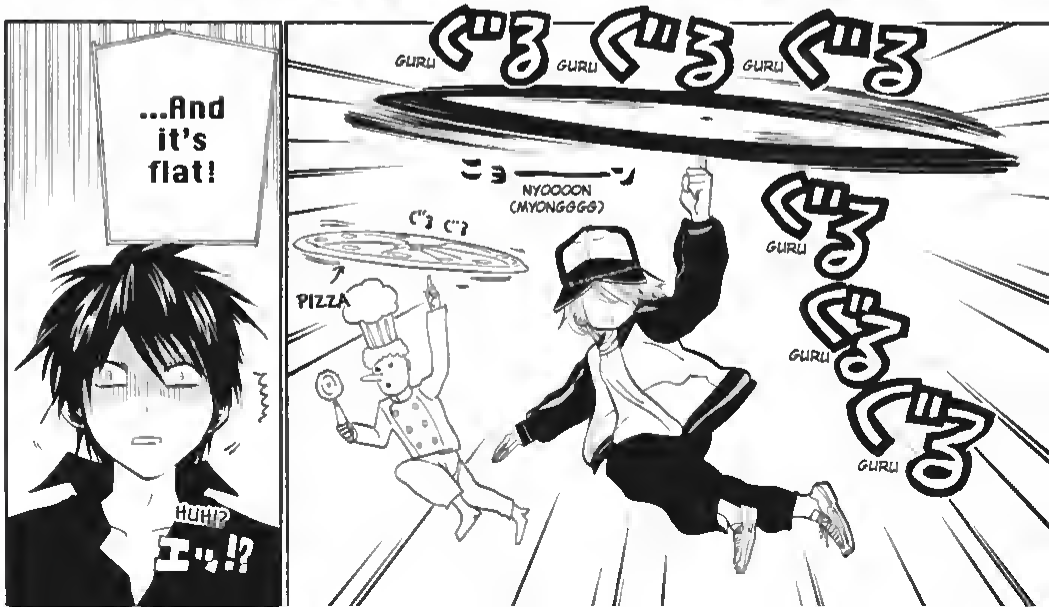
THE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR SIZE...
BUWAA (WOOOSH)
...IS OVERWHELMING!!
I'LL JUST NAB YOU...
ONCE I'VE CAUGHT HIM, HE CAN'T GET AWAY.
IN RAW POWER, I'M THE BETTER, GIVEN MY SIZE.
...AND TOSS YOU IN!!
BA (LEAP)

ピョイーーーーン
PYOIIIIIN (BYOINGGG)
PYOIN
ピョイン
PYOIN
ピョイン
SFX: GOKU (GULP)
?
FIVE HITS TO THE FACE ...!!
IN-CRED-IBLE ...!
AMAZ-ING ..!
...A DUEL?
IS THIS REAL-LY ...
ごく...

THIS MARTIAL ARTIST TENCHI HAS SUCH SUPERB AGILITY AND POISE!
HE NOT ONLY AVOIDS THE TACKLES, HE DELIVERS PIERCING BLOWS TO CRITICAL POINTS!
DODODODODO (BABABABABAM)
MOMOKO-VISION
Uh-oh, what's this?
JI (STARE)
.....!?
And another desperate lunge by Tenka!
BOYAAA (DRRRR)
KOUSHI-VISION
Eight shots to the solar plexus!
FIVE HITS TO THE FACE, EIGHT TO THE SOLAR PLEXUS!
IT'S TOO PAIN-FUL TO WATCH!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS! YOU'RE BROTHERS...
STOP IT!
AMAZING! WHAT AN INCREDIBLE BATTLE!
MY SKIN HURTS FROM THE PRO-JECTED RAGE...!
PIRI (STING)
PIRI
PIRI

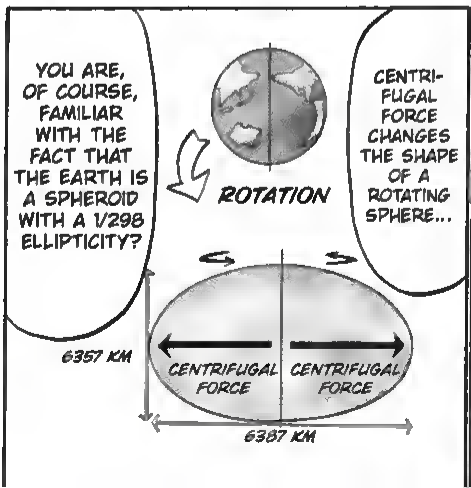
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA (WHAM)
The details must be completely lost in the sight of any normal human being!
It's a blood-curdling battle unfolding below...


GURU (SPIN)
GURU
GURU
GURU
GURU
GURU
GURU
Spins!
Spins...
He spins it...
KURU
KURU (PSS)
Wait, he has the soccer ball!
Tenchi, on the other hand...
SU (SWIP)
Tenka continues racking up damage!

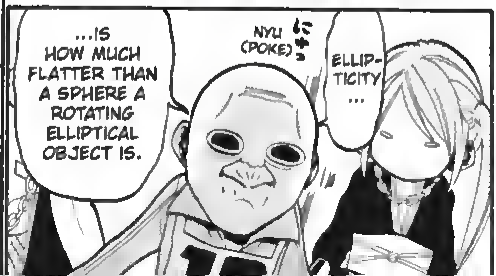

...And it's flat!
HUH!?
エッ!?
GURU
GURU
GURU
NYOOOON (MYONGGGG)
PIZZA
GURU
GURU
GURU

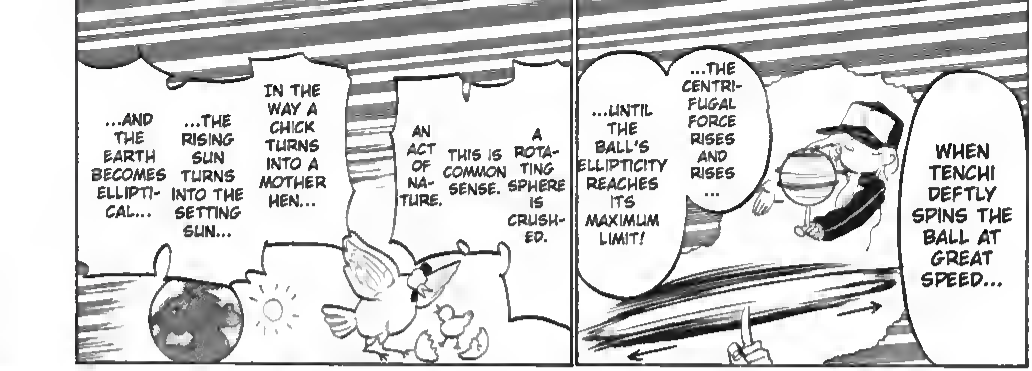
ZAKUUUU (SLUSHHH)
ザク
SHOBABABABA (SHBABABABOW)
シュバババ
GWAAAHHH!!
SPINBALL CHAINSAW SLASH!!!

THE ELLIPTICITY PRINCIPLE...
GOKU (GULP)
ゴクッ…
EX-ACTLY...
I SEE...
HOW IS THAT POS-SIBLE!?
WHAT!?
ガタッ
GATA (THUMP)


YOU ARE, OF COURSE, FAMILIAR WITH THE FACT THAT THE EARTH IS A SPHEROID WITH A 1/298 ELLIPTICITY?
ROTATION
CENTRI-FUGAL FORCE CHANGES THE SHAPE OF A ROTATING SPHERE...
6357 KM
CENTRIFUGAL FORCE
CENTRIFUGAL FORCE
6387 KM

WHAT, ISN'T IT OBVI-OUS?
WHAT'S THAT, NEE-SAN?


...IS HOW MUCH FLATTER THAN A SPHERE A ROTATING ELLIPTICAL OBJECT IS.
NYU (POKE)
にゅっ
ELLIP-TICITY...

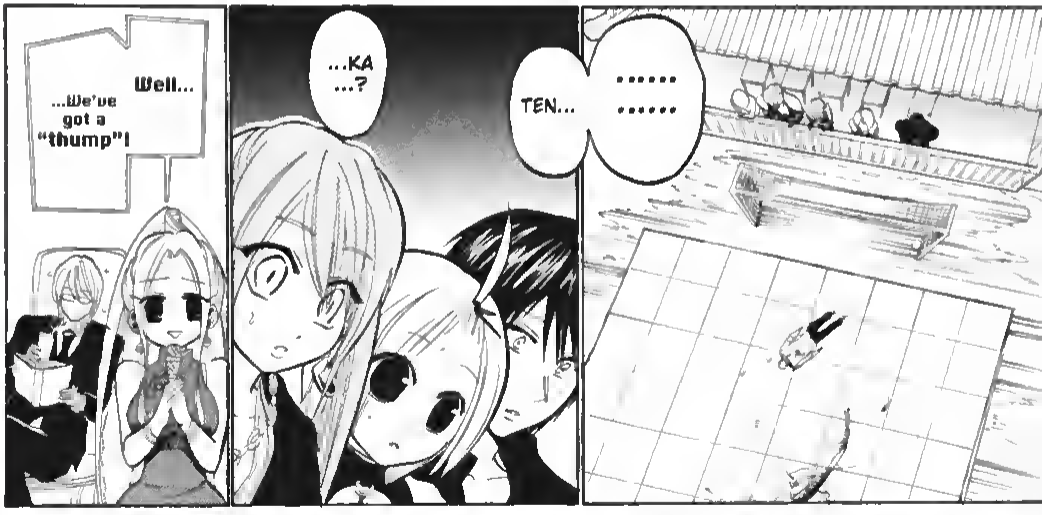

WHEN TENCHI DEFTLY SPINS THE BALL AT GREAT SPEED...
...THE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE RISES AND RISES...
...UNTIL THE BALL'S ELLIPTICITY REACHES ITS MAXIMUM LIMIT!
A ROTATING SPHERE IS CRUSHED.
THIS IS COMMON SENSE.
AN ACT OF NATURE.
IN THE WAY A CHICK TURNS INTO A MOTHER HEN...
...THE RISING SUN TURNS INTO THE SETTING SUN...
...AND THE EARTH BECOMES ELLIPTICAL...

...THE PROCESS OF A SOCCER BALL BECOMING FLAT...
...IS ENTIRELY NATURAL!

IN THE WAY A CHICK TURNS INTO A HEN!
IN THE WAY THE SUN RISES AND SETS!
SO (SLUMP) ...
AND SO, THE FEROCIOUS MATCH CONTINUED ON (WITHOUT KOUSHI) ...

Hmmm...
Well, Tenka gave it a good shot...
...but it's only enough for a "good effort" prize.
.....
Tenka?
Are you there, Tenka?
SFX: HYUUUUUU (WHOOOOSH)
.....
.....
.....

ドサ
DOSA (THUMP)


Well...
...We've got a "thump"!
...KA ...?
TEN...
.....
.....

I'LL JUST HAVE TO WIN TWO...
SUTA (STEP)
SUTA
IT'S ONLY ONE LOSS...
.....
.....
.....
SHIIIIN (SILENCE)

Oh no...
We're not done yet...
.....
NIYA (SMIRK)
...
OKAY, SWITCH!
I'M UP NEXT.
...the opponent is inside the goal.
It's not over until...
...THE BALL YOU USE TO WIN IS THE OPPONENT'S CORPSE...
EVEN IF THAT MEANS...
That's exactly right!
!?
GOGOGOGOGOGO (RRRUMBLE)
ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

BYE-BYE...
...NII-CHAN.
Okay, Tenchi! Time to score that winning goal!
NO! STOP ...!!
GUUU (GRRGGG)
ウウ...

ゴー
TENKAAAAAAAAA!!!
GO! (GRAKK)

AAAGH!
KOGANEI
GA (WHACK)
GUSU (SNIFF)
YOU THERE...
...ARE YOU OKAY?
IF YOU WISH TO PRO-TECT...
...THOSE YOU LOVE...
MEANWHILE, AT THE KOGANEI VILLAGE BOYS' BASEBALL FIELD...
G-GEEZ, SHE'S TOUGH!
YOU'RE GONNA GET IT!
PYUUU (PWEEE)
-KA (CLOP)
SFX: GOSHI (RUB) GOSHI
I'LL GET MUCH STRONGER...
OKAY... I WON'T!
I'LL BE STRON-GER!
...YOUR WILL TO FIGHT!
...THEN DO NOT ABAN-DON...

...UNTIL I'M A REALLY COOL HERO... JUST LIKE YOU, ONEE-CHAN!!
...YOUNG MAN...!
BE STRONG...
HIHIN (WHHINNY)

SFX: PURU (SHIVER) PURU PURU

CHAPTER 30. GLADIATORIAL SOCCER (1) – END / SUMOMOMO, MOMOMO 4 END

TRANSLATION NOTES

Sumomomo Momomo is part of a well-known Japanese tongue twister which reads, "Sumama ma mamo mo momo na uchi," and roughly means,"Plums and peaches are part of the peach family."

Common Honorifics
No honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness.
-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss.
-sama: Conveys great respect.
-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, indicating affection or familiarity.
-chan: An affectionate honorific used mostly in reference to girls or cute persons.
-senpai: A term used to address upperclassmen.
-*nii*, *anii-san*, *nii-chan*: Used to address one's older brother or brother figure.
-*nee*, *anee-san*, *nee-chan*: Used to address ones's older sister or sister figure.

Page 47
Aniki: "Older brother." Similar to "*anii-san*" but a bit rougher and more adult-sounding.

Page 48
Aneki: "Older sister." The female equivalent of "aniki."

Page 75
Zhen ptomoine: A zhen is a type of Chinese bird, possibly mythological, that is said to produce poison when its feathers are dipped into alcohol. Ptomaine poisoning is a rare medical term for food poisoning.

Page 79
Ki: Also known as "chi," this refers to the natural energy that is found in any living thing—spiritual power, life essence.

Page 114
Bronch families: Though the locations given for the homes of each of the siblings is in Japanese, they can be translated into English names, as well. Mukyuu Rengokukei means "Infinite Purgatory Canyon." Yauka Gakudau means "Bewitching Hell Cave." Shingokuzan means "Needle Hell Mountain."

Page 124
Doujutsu: Techniques using the eyes.

STAFF:

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FUMIE ITOU

TAEKO SHIMADA

SEIKO KIZU

AUTHOR:
SHINOBU OHTAKA

AUTHOR GREETING

UNFORTUNATELY THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR BONUS PAGES THIS TIME AROUND, SO ALL I HAVE IS THIS GREETING. HELLO, I'M SHINOBU OHTAKA. SUMOMOMO, MOMOMO IS A MANGA IN WHICH THE PROTAGONIST, HOLED AWAY INSIDE THE ROOM THAT MAKES UP HIS PERSONAL VALUES AND VIEWS, IS DRAWN OUT AND BROUGHT TO HIS FEET BY THE SOMEWHAT FORCEFUL ASSISTANCE OF THOSE AROUND HIM, MOST NOTABLY HIS POWERFUL BRIDE. I HOPE YOU ENJOY THE PROCESS OF SEEING THIS SPINELESS WIMP SLOWLY SHED HIS FRAGILE SELF AND TURN INTO A ROBUST, RESOLUTE MAN.

— SHINOBU OHTAKA

SUMOMOMO MOMOMO④

Shinobu Ohtaka

Translation: Stephen Paul

Lettering: Terri Delgado

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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